

FREE

The Highlands Communicator

Dec 19, 2007 - Christmas Edition

Haliburton County's Good News Fun Free Newspaper

Vol. 7 Issue 5



**Boxing
Week
Specials
See pages
10 - 15**



**Circulation
8,000**



Seasons Greetings

**Teddy
Time**
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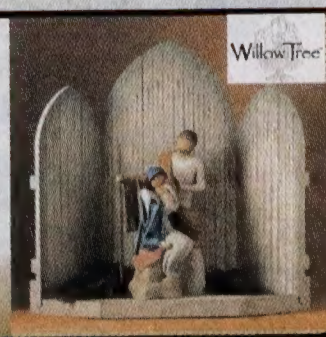
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Sponsors Needed for Ice Time

Home Builder's Hockey Tournament Set For January



The arena in Haliburton is always a bustle of activity, and that won't change on January 25 - 27th, as teams take to the ice for the 10th annual Home Builders Charity Hockey Tournament in Haliburton. Some tournament games will also take place at the Wilberforce Arena on Saturday. The tournament has grown from 6 teams ten years ago to more than twenty five. This growth

means that the tournament will need 2 rinks for part of the weekend.

This tournament offers four divisions - an open division for any non-members to participate, Home Builders division - closed to members only, an over 35 division and a ladies division. The cost per team is \$550, and is non-contact hockey in all divisions. There will be prizes awarded to the winners in all divisions.

The organizers are still seeking sponsors for ice time. "You can sponsor as little as a half hour or as many hours as you feel like sponsoring," explains Aggie Tose. The cost to sponsor is \$102 per hour plus gst. "We will be using over 40 hours of ice in both Haliburton and Wilberforce."

Proceeds from this worthwhile cause go to the 4c's for the Haliburton County & Minden Food Banks. Aggie explains that they chose this charity because, "after Christmas, there isn't much food left in the food bank. We, the Home Builders association, like to be involved in the community and we felt this was a very worthwhile cause."

Spectators are encouraged to come out and watch the hockey excitement. "It's fun hockey. We want people in there watching," says Aggie. Admission to watch is by donation. There will also be a licensed bar upstairs in the Haliburton Arena open during the tournament and a dance featuring DJ music Friday and Saturday nights.

The games get underway at approximately 6 p.m. on the Friday. Finals conclude on the Sunday around 5 p.m.

For more information, or to obtain a registration form contact Aggie at 457-2629. You can also check the website at www.hchba.ca

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Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment will be having their annual "Fill a Cruiser with Food" campaign this week.

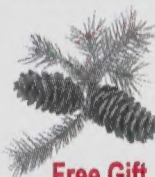
On Wednesday December 19, 2007, officers will be at the Wilberforce Foodland from 10:00am to 1:00 pm trying to fill a cruiser with food. All donated food will be given to the Wilberforce Outreach Centre.

On Thursday December 20, 2007, officers will be at the Minden Valumart from 10:00am until noon. The officers will then move down to the Minden IGA where they will accept donations until 2:00pm. All the donations will then be turned over to the Minden Food Bank.

On Friday December 21, 2007 officers will be at Todd's Independent from 10:00am until noon. The officers will then proceed over to the Haliburton IGA where they will accept donations until 2:00pm. All the donations will then be turned over to the 4 C's.

This year officers will be hoping to fill the detachments new extended cab pick up truck full off groceries.

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On Business

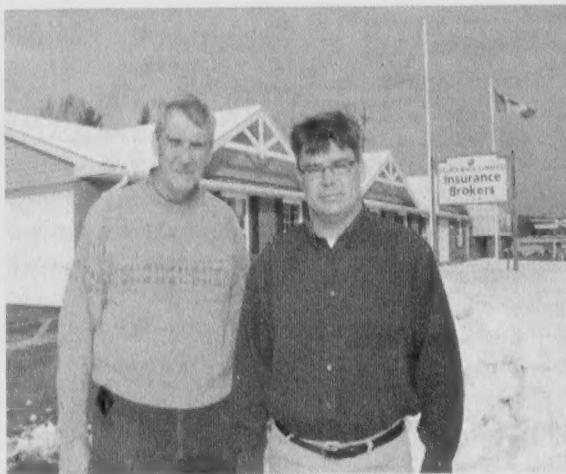
by George Farrell

"We Sell The Earth And Insure Its Contents."

That was the motto back when Floyd Hall operated both an insurance and a real estate business, under one roof, on Main street in Minden. Things have changed some since those days, and the business that Floyd built no longer sells real estate. The business now concentrates on insurance. At their spiffy offices on Highway 35 in Minden, in what used to be the OPP headquarters, I met with Don and Glenn Hall; Floyd's son, and grandson, respectively.

Lets get one thing out of the way off the top. Glenn Hall is not the goalie of hockey fame, though Don admits that his son was named after the famous puck stopper. To make things even more confusing for hockey nuts is the fact that Glenn has his offices festooned with hockey paraphernalia, including, you guessed it, a photo and autograph of the goalie guy. But we digress.

Don Hall gets us started by giving some of the history of the business. "In 1940 my Dad, Floyd bought property on Halls Lake, (no, there's no connection with the name of the lake), and we used to spend summers there at the cottage." Floyd also had two daughters, Barbara and Betty. Floyd had been in the insurance business in Toronto for 30 years. Floyd wanted to get out of the city, and in March of 1953 he moved up to Minden and rented Jack Welches stone home on Invergordon, on the Gull River." It was Floyd's first office. "He opened up a branch of Brandon and Murchison, insurance brokers, out of Fenelon Falls. Then in 1956



Max Brandon died and Floyd bought the Minden branch," Don recalls. "Then in 1958 he bought the space on 106 Main St (now Bobcaygeon Rd), in Minden. It was where B'wana John's is located now." The business remained at that location until 2003 when it expanded, and moved to its present location on the Highway.

"I came up in '53 with Dad," Don continues. "I was 18 and I attended high school in the basement of the Anglican Church on Invergordon. The high school was build in '54, but Don wasn't there for long. "I decided to leave school and I went surveying for the next 4 years, for the Department of Highways. I worked on Highway 401 from Newcastle to the Quebec border, and on the Trans Canada, along Lake Superior. In 1958 I came back to Minden and worked with Dad for a year. We decided I needed more experience, so I moved back to Toronto where I worked for the Agents General Insurance Company for 2 years. Then I moved on to the Continental Casualty Insurance Company. After being there for 6 months, they sent me to Vancouver as an underwriter. In 1963 I came back to Minden and worked for Dad for the summer. I planned on going to England to work for Lloyds of London, but I met a girl named Eleanor Stewardson." And that, as they say, was that. "We were married in January of '64. We settled down in Minden, and I sold insurance for Dad."

"The Haliburton office opened in the early 70's," Don Hall states.

Floyd Hall cont'd... pg. 5...

The Highlands Communicator

Halliburton County's Good News Fun Free Newspaper

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Your Portal to All Haliburton County & Beyond!

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Forever in our Hearts...
Roberta Welsh - Feb 12/06
Chuck Irvine - Jan 3/02

**Thank you to
All Our Advertisers,
All Our Writers
& All Our Readers!**

Floyd Hall Limited Cont'd....

... from pg. 4

"Floyd, my father, died in 1977, and that's when I became president. In 1984 we decided to concentrate on Insurance only." Sadly, the great motto died with the change.

After Don brings out some old photos of Floyd and the old downtown Minden office to show us, son Glenn takes over, and brings the history of the business up to date. Glenn is married to Heather, who is a nurse in the Minden Hospital. The couple have 3 children; Christopher 11, Andrew 8, and Ryan 5.

"I was born and raised in Minden," Glenn commences. He went to high school in Haliburton, and graduated in 1986. After that he went to Seneca College in Toronto for 2 years, where he took marketing. After that Glenn worked for Royal Insurance, under a broker trainee program. When he received his brokers licence, "I started to work for father. We worked together under his leadership for the next ten years. I bought the business from him in January of '99, and in May of that year, I purchased the Haliburton office of Frost Insurance Brokers, and they came under our umbrella."

In 2000 the Haliburton office was moved from Stedman's Mall to 165 Highland Street, right across from the Kozy, where it's still located. "We bought the OPP office in Minden in December of '02," says Glenn, "and we spent about 5 months doing renovations. We had our grand opening in May of 2003."

Services

"We're a general insurance broker," Glenn states, "and we sell auto, home and commercial insurance as well as insurance for cottages and seasonal homes." I stop him right there realizing that some people may not know what an insurance broker is. Glenn is a patient man, and he explains. "A broker is an independent insurance professional who works on behalf of the customer to obtain insurance from any of our companies that we represent." That was pretty succinct, and Glenn augments the statement by listing off some of the insurance companies that Floyd Hall represents. "Let's see," he reflects; "there's Farmers Mutual of Lindsay, Wawanese Mutual, Pilot Insurance, Gore Mutual, Royal and Sun Alliance, Western Assurance, Algoma Mutual, and Aviva Elite. Plus additional specialty insurers who insure things like errors and omissions and high risk auto. One of the main reasons for our steady growth is the willingness of the companies that we represent to deal with the rural market."

The Staff

"Our staff have been instrumental in our growth as well," says Glenn, and father Don concurs. "Many of them have been with us for years. Customer Service Rep' Judy McCracken, has run our Haliburton office since 1992. In Minden there's Josie Barry, Kelli Gilligan, Matt Hamilton, Julie Hall, and Sara Booth. Donna Jennings keeps the books, and Doug Brown is our replacement cost estimator. All our staff members, with the exception of Donna, are licenced insurance brokers."

Glenn can't resist the chance, and smiling he says "Why not give them the opportunity to quote on your insurance needs, as you may be pleasantly surprised at the rates, coverage and service they offer." It worked as an ending for me.

The Floyd Hall Limited Insurance Brokers, Minden office, is located at 12565 Highway 35. You can reach them at (705) 286-1270. The Haliburton office is located at 165 Highland Street and their phone number is (705) 457-1732. The toll free number is 1-800-254-7814.

Pictured: Don and Glenn Hall outside the Minden office
Floyd Hall; The old Minden Office on Main Street;
The Haliburton Office



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Closed December 25th and December 26th

Moose FM Rocks with Haliburton County for Christmas!

As per every weekday morning, Ryan Griffiths and Anne Creelman kicked off their morning show on Moose FM, Haliburton Minden's Classic Rock station, last Thursday, December 13 at 6 am. But, there was added excitement on that day because it was the Second Annual Moose FM Radiothon in support of the Four C's, Minden Food Bank and all of the areas they serve in Haliburton County. The phones started ringing almost as soon as the first newscast was finished and they didn't stop until Friday at 6 pm. The total for the two day blitz was an overwhelming \$15,284.38 and 163 pledges which left everyone who works at the Moose in awe of Haliburton County.

"I think we have the best listeners in the whole Moose chain of radio stations", says Ryan Griffiths, program manager and morning show co-host. "When we held our first Radiothon last year, Anne and I were blown away at the reception we received. We thought maybe the novelty may have worn off a bit this year but no way! Lots of the same people called in with pledges and challenges, but there were just as many news ones this year. This is just an incredibly caring community that we live in."



The Moose radio stations are owned by Christopher and Kimberley Ward Grossman of the Haliburton Broadcasting Group. All of the Moose stations host the Christmas Radiothons because the Grossmans believe strongly in giving back to their communities. Ryan and Anne decided last year that, rather than try to re-invent the wheel, it would make more sense to support the groups that already had the logistics in place. "The Haliburton County Homebuilders Association Toy Challenge and the Four C's and Minden Food Banks already had collecting toys and food down to a science so rather than compete, it was better just to join in and add to it!" Last year's total was around \$15,000 which was awe-inspiring. Ryan and Anne weren't sure what to expect this year and felt that no matter what amount was raised, it was all for a good cause. When they made over fifteen thousand again this year, they could scarcely believe it. "It makes you pretty emotional to realize you live in a community that cares so much," says Anne Creelman. "Other Moose stations may be in bigger centers but per capita, Haliburton County takes the cake!"

Electricians, builders, school kids, hairdressers, teachers, dancers, pet lovers, proud parents, cottage associations, contractors, bus drivers, government workers, road departments, hydro, plumbers, restaurants, and on and on the list goes, as well as people coming in off the street all donating and challenging others to do the same. "Ryan and I wanted to stress that no amount was too little and every donations is greatly appreciated. It is just the act of giving that makes the difference," says Anne. As Ryan points out, "You just never know when you may be the person in need through no fault of your own and it is nice to know that there are helping hands out there."

Moose cont'd... pg. 7...

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and a Merry Christmas from all of us to all of you!

Thank you for your patronage

Henwood's Variety

Moose Raises Over \$15,000 for 4 C's Foodbank

... from pg. 6

By the end of the two days, Ryan and Anne were a little hoarse from talking so much, a little punchy from fatigue and absolutely amazed at the good people of Haliburton County. "And really," continues Griffiths, "we are just the voice, the means to get the word out. The people who give so generously are the ones who should be commended." And give you did!

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Moose Radiothon in support of Haliburton County Food Banks such a huge success. We accomplish so much when we work together. Happy Holidays from all of us at the Moose 93.5 – Ryan and Anne, Kim, Cheryl, Dean and Tracy.

Learn A



Word

Demarche

\da-marsh\ n 1a: a course of action: maneuver b: a diplomatic or political initiative or maneuver

*2: a petition or protest presented through diplomatic channels.

*The arrests prompted a demarche from the Chinese government.

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Grand Opening
will be
announced
soon!!

**Note: All Communicator phone
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Canadian Association for Disabled Skiers Find Home at Sir Sam's

By Terrance Gavan

"It was ability that mattered, not disability, which is a word I'm not crazy about using."
Marlee Matlin, actress.

We will never find a word to encapsulate the freedom felt, flowing fast through a biting wind on a broad pastiche of white.

It's not in Websters and you won't find it in your rusty set of Funk and Wagnall's.

But close your eyes just tight enough to recall a moment and a smile. That smile is freedom's ride. Not a word, but a feeling; and just fleeting enough to keep us frantically seeking more.

We don't need an encyclopedia, we just need to open the broad pages of our imaginations to delineate that freedom. A downhill rip, a wink, a smile.

And finding that place where, to borrow from Matlin, all that matters is ability. Disability fuses with the white and disappears into a myopic haze.

Torpor disappears, replaced by the free-flow of Newton's apple. Unhinged from friction's rasp by a grappling grasp with gravity.

Volunteers with the Canadian Association for Disabled Skiers (CADS) don't need a word and all of them have experienced that magic frozen moment in time when one of their charges flashed that wide, Grand Canyon grin.

That smile, frozen in time, a twinge on a reddened cheek. A bright-eyed glance from beneath the covers of a ski-toboggan or an "I-did-it-moment" from a kamikaze berth atop a rocketing sit-ski.

Terry Maher is a long time resident of the Haliburton Highlands and has been volunteering with challenged skiers at Sir Sam's Ski Area over the past four seasons. He was there when the program was still affiliated with Track-3 Ontario.

The core group of volunteers decided to move over to CADS because the CADS curriculum is recognized Canada-wide and offers programs not available to Track-3 and its somewhat limited provincial scope.

Maher is a Level 2 CSIA certified Ski Instructor with the able-bodied Canadian Ski Instructor's Alliance (CSIA) and is also certified with CADS through training programs run at Sir Sam's at the front end of every ski season.



The CADS program at Sir Sam's is officially known as Haliburton Skiforall and as Maher explains, it is a program "centered first and foremost on having fun in a sociable learning environment."

"Our program is registered with the CSIA and the Canadian Association of Snowboard Instructors (CASI) and several of our CADS personnel are also certified CSIA or CASI instructors," explains Maher. "Our teaching techniques are a modification of the CSIA/CASI teaching methodologies and similar to the programs of ski schools Canada-wide."

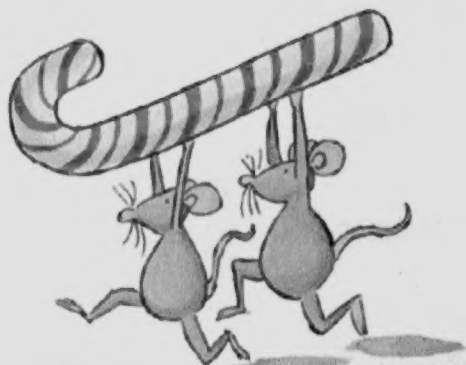
Maher allows that the current roster for Haliburton Skiforall includes 22 CADS certified instructors, six assistants and 10 "students" with a wide spectrum of developmental and physical disabilities.

Maher gives a lot of credit to the Sir Sam's Ski Area management and staff for giving impetus to the continued success of the CADS program.

"The Bishop family, owners of Sir Sam's Ski Area, is more than generous in assisting with the needs of the local CADS club," explains Maher.

CADS cont'd... pg. 9...

BRING IT ON...



**Seasons Greetings
from the gang at..**



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everyone during
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**We look forward
to seeing you in
the New Year!**

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

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CADS: Volunteers are Always Welcome

... from pg. 8

"They provide their facilities at no cost to the club members and assist in furthering the central purpose of the local club through their many donations in-kind and in services provided," explains Maher.

Haliburton Skiforall assists in developing skiers with challenges ranging from cerebral palsy to autism to physical challenges like loss of lower limb or paraplegia. CADS training covers methods for training and use of vehicles to suit the needs of the students involved.

Training will also facilitate instruction for deaf or blind skiers and there are comprehensive methodologies involved for each type of training.

Teresa Deuzeman has been involved in an organizational capacity with Haliburton Skiforall and is in the process of examining new initiatives aimed at rehabilitation programs for injured Canadian soldiers recovering from injuries incurred in training or during active combat duty.

She says its an exhilarating new opportunity for CADS and is based on a similar initiative begun in the USA.

"It's an exciting initiative," says Deuzeman, who has been in contact with members of the Canadian Armed Forces Rehab staff in conjunction with the bold undertaking.

Recently 58 injured US soldiers, returned from Iraq and Afghanistan, were exposed to alpine skiing as part of a disabled skiing program in Breckenridge, Colorado.

The Hartford Ski Spectacular, sponsored by the Hartford Financial Services Group Inc., and conducted by Disabled Sports USA (DS/USA), offers children and adults with physical disabilities the opportunity to experience Alpine and Nordic skiing and snowboarding.

In a recent activity report the group announced: "DS/USA continues their 38 year history of rebuilding the lives of disabled veterans, and will host 58 U.S. soldiers severely injured in Iraq and Afghanistan, along with 50 of their family members, to participate in the week-long event. These service members will attend as part of the year round Wounded Warrior Disabled Sports Project, conducted by the Wounded Warrior Project and DS/USA.

"For many, this will be their first time participating in sports since their injury. Some returning servicemen will instruct alongside members of the U.S. Paralympic Ski Team and the Fire Department of New York (FDNY), who served during September 11th attacks."

Deuzeman says that the Wounded Warrior Project is a laudable endeavor and one that could be emulated here in Canada with the help of groups like CADS. She has been in contact with personnel at National Defence and thus far she says that she has received some very favorable feedback from staff at all levels.

She says that she will continue to work at keeping the lines of communication open and flowing. And she adds that there is cause for

optimism regarding a wounded warrior type program run in conjunction with CADS.

She also says that CADS has reached out to Ontario's new Lieutenant Governor David Onley. Onley was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor just two weeks ago.

Onley, who travels with a motorized scooter as a result of a childhood illness, said he hopes to be a strong advocate for the disabled during his term.

He was partially paralyzed from the neck down at age three by polio and uses leg braces, a cane and his motorized scooter to get around.

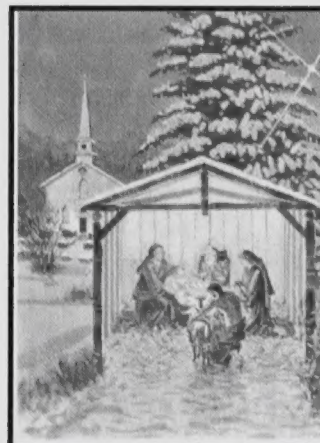
He said his new job — involving touring all over the province — is a great platform from which to promote greater accessibility for other people with physical disabilities.

Deuzeman says that Onley could provide invaluable support for organizations like CADS, which rely heavily on volunteers and donations in addition to provincial support for their continued economic viability and growth. But, she also adds that volunteers are the major contributors to the continued success of programs like CADS.

Deuzeman says that volunteers are always welcome at Sir Sam's and that strong skiing ability is a bonus, but not necessarily a requisite for entry into the Instructor's program. She says that courses for instructor training are aimed at adapting the instructor or facilitator with approaches to training and teaching.

As Maher says, CADS is "a volunteer-based organization dedicated to helping persons with disabilities to lead richer and fuller lives through

CADS cont'd... pg. 11...



All of us wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support.

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A Little Bit of Everything

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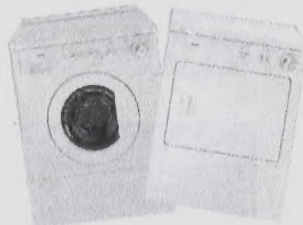
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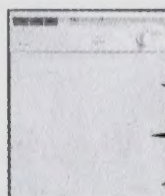
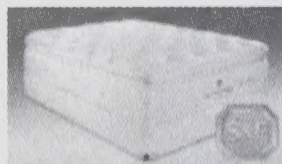
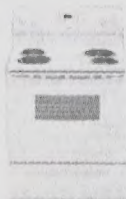
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CADS cont'd...

... from pg. 9

active participation in recreational and competitive snow skiing and snowboarding."

Deuzeman adds that friendships formed are often forged for life. "We maintain contact with other volunteers even through the summer months," says Deuzeman.

She adds that the camaraderie is part and parcel of the unique exposure to the students and that special spark that accompanies a trip from top to bottom of Cash Register or Kingston Road on a sparkling sun-drenched winter day.

Freedom is defined by one source as "the condition of being free of restraints."

And of course that's what it's all about.

Close your eyes; just tight enough; imagine Peter Pan and that first step off the ledge.

Imagine the smile.



Green Cars of the Future



Plug-In Hybrid

If any technology on this list has a right to call itself "the way of the future," this is it. Ford's recently released Edge with HySeries Drive SUV prototype (pictured here) is a "plug-in hybrid," meaning it combines a hydrogen fuel-cell generator with lithium-ion batteries to deliver more than 41 miles per gallon with zero emissions. You can recharge the battery pack by plugging the vehicle into an electric socket.

STORE CLOSING

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Located directly below Country Pickin's Highland St. Haliburton

Boxing Day.... Dashing Through The Stores...

In Canada, Boxing Day is observed as a holiday, except (in some cases) for those in the retail business. Boxing Day and the days immediately following are when many retail stores sell their Christmas and retired model products by holding clearance sales. Some shoppers will line up for hours at night (sometimes before midnight and after midnight on December 26) for retailers to open their doors. Except in Quebec, retailers often open their stores earlier than usual, such as 6 or 7 am. Some retail companies internally refer to the sales week after Christmas as the "thirteenth month."

It is similar to Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, in the United States. Boxing Day 2005 was the single largest economic transaction day ever in the history of Canadian commerce (according to Visa). Individual big box stores can even gross over CAD\$1,000,000 on one single Boxing Day.

As an exception, most retail stores are not permitted to open on Boxing Day in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, or Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2006, Nova Scotia eliminated a

similar ban on Boxing Day openings, although most retailers elected to continue past practice and remain closed that day. In these provinces, most stores offer the same specials on December 27 that they would offer elsewhere on the 26th. This distinction is not well known in central and western Canada.^[9]

In addition to the retail aspect of the holiday, Boxing Day also serves, in English-speaking parts of the country, as a second day for families to gather for dinner and to exchange gifts. Boxing Day dinner is, in many ways, just as much a part of many families traditions as Christmas dinner itself.

Boxing Week

Boxing Week is, at least, the six-day period that starts with Boxing Day and ends with New Year's Eve. It may also include a few days before Christmas and/or after New Year's Day. It is not strictly a week.

Many Canadian and (increasingly) UK retailers, as well as some other Commonwealth countries clear their inventory in Boxing Week specials because in many cases: Inventory must be counted using

Boxing Day cont'd... pg. 15....



French Dressing Woolrich Point Zero Parkhurst

Christmas Sale Now On!!

**WE'RE OVERSTOCKED
AND CLEARING OUT DOZENS OF
FASHIONS IN STORE.**

BOXING WEEK SALE

starts Dec 27th - Don't miss it!



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vandshal@sympatico.ca



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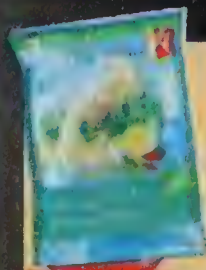
HOLIDAY HOURS:

DEC 21-23, 7AM - 9PM
DEC 24, 7 AM - 6 PM
DEC 25 - CLOSED
DEC 26, 9 AM - 5 PM
DEC 27 - 30, 7 AM - 9 PM
DEC 31, 7 AM - 5 PM
JAN 1ST, CLOSED

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31-40 count

\$4.99/bag
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WOW!!

PC Spiral HONEY HAMS



WOW!!

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BOXING WEEK



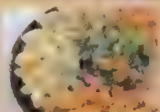
Save up to **60%**
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Relax. Leave that to us!
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and more. Come see us!

See us for
all your
Christmas
entertaining
Confectionary
products.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM EVERYONE AT TODD'S INDEPENDENT
& BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR!



Boxing Day cont'd...

... from pg. 13

expensive labour some time in January.; Depending on the state, province or municipality, they are often subject to a millage tax (similar to property taxes) on any inventory retained as of 1 January of each year (or 7 January/15 January in some tax jurisdictions); and / or they are introducing new products in the new year.

This results in huge lineups at retailers.

By coincidence, Boxing Week is observed simultaneously with the festival of Kwanzaa.

South Africa

In South Africa, Boxing Day is known in the official calendar as Day of Goodwill

Sport

In Australia, Boxing Day has become a significant sporting day (similar to ANZAC Day celebrations). In Melbourne the Boxing Day Test Match is played at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, often before the largest single day crowd of the Australian cricket season. In Sydney, the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race typically starts on this day.

**Don't forget to
visit all the stores
on pages 10 - 15 for
their Boxing Day
Specials !!!**

Annual Boxing Week Sale!!

20% Off Storewide & up to 65% off

Sale runs Dec. 26 - Jan 6th (excludes wooden furniture)

Gifts, Unique Accents

Lots Of Fun, Funky Neat Stuff

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Open by chance after Jan 6th - 13th,
then closing until April

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Merry Christmas to All!

**Best wishes to
all in for 2008
May all your dreams
come true!**



**"Don't miss our After Christmas Sale"
Dec 27 - Jan 6, 2008.**

"Please Don't Drink and Drive".

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Holiday Greetings

We're happy to have this opportunity to
express our gratitude and offer our
very best wishes to all of you at
this joyous time of the
year. Thank you!



Lynda Easton & Staff

OPEN BOXING DAY!!

9AM TO 5 PM

**Stop in and see our specials
during BOXING WEEK!**

We're more than a great grocery store...

Kinmount and area Business Directory

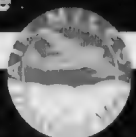
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KINMOUNT

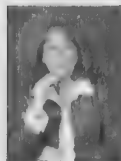


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It's Happening in Kinmount!

by Lynne Kilby

Well, I have just returned from Ross Memorial Hospital where I had the honour to welcome my new granddaughter Kaylynn into this world. What Christmas gift could be more special than the miracle of life?

Our community has also received a truly wonderful Christmas giftthe Kinmount Agricultural Society is in the process of completing the rink at our arena and their goal is to be finished by Christmas! It's so exciting to think hockey and skating in Kinmount will soon be a reality once again. Plans for Kinmount Winter Carnival are also in the works. Aaaah, the good old days are returning. The Kinmount Agricultural Society is gratified to see how much support has been given so far to this campaign. They have gone ahead with the required work on the arena even though all the funds needed have not been raised yet. It's not too late to help with this worthy cause and be acknowledged on a plaque at the arena by donating \$60.00. Call 488-2372/488-3162 or mail your donation to Kinmount Agricultural Society, P.O. Box 238, Kinmount, On, K0M 2A0.

If you haven't got your flu shot yet you can still get one at Kinmount and District Health Centre until the end of December on Mondays to Wednesdays between 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Thursdays between 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You do not have to be a patient at the clinic to receive your flu shot. There is no need for an appointment if you come at the specified time. Remember to bring your health card. Call 488-1105 for more info.

You still have time to purchase a delicious Christmas cake from the Kinmount & District Lions Club. The cakes, available around town, make a great item to give to others or add to your own table for the holiday season.

Kinmount Public Library has made some changes to programming times beginning in January. Preschool Storytime and Craft will be held *every* Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Tweens & Teens will meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m.

My very best wishes to one and all for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May you give and receive the very best the human spirit has to offer!

Remember to call me at (705) 488-2919 or E-mail me at lynne.kilby@sympatico.ca to share news or advertise an event or activity. Special events coming up include:

Dec. 31 - **New Year's Eve Dance** at the Royal Canadian Legion 9:00 p.m. Call 488-3462.

Jan. 19 - Annual Pearson Family **Community Sleigh Ride**, at Pearson Hunting Camp on Galway Road beginning at noon. Don't miss out on this great fun for the whole family featuring sleigh rides, turkey shoot, bonfire and food all for a nominal cost. This year proceeds will go to the completion of the rink at Kinmount Arena.

Jan. 19 - Stop in at the **Friends of the Library Book Sale**, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., downstairs at the library to discover treasures at reasonable prices.

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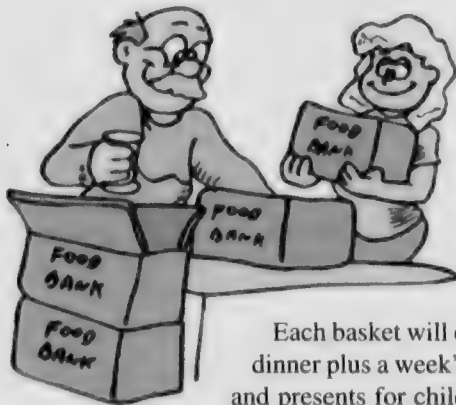


Hunger Exists in Haliburton County

Hunger exists in Haliburton County, with approximately 48% of food bank recipients being children. Each food bank in our county registers on average 3-5 new families per month. There are many families that could very much use the services of our Food Banks, however, pride prevents them from doing so.

The Food Net members work very hard through their own agencies to bring supplemental food to their clients who face hunger as part of their daily routine. Currently the Haliburton County Food Net provides perishable and non-perishable food items to many agencies in Haliburton County, including The Minden Food Bank, 4-C's Food Bank, Cardiff Community Food Bank, Wilberforce and Highland Grove Word of Life Clothing and Emergency Food Outreach, S.I.R.C.H., Ontario Early Years Centre, Minden United Church, Community Care Haliburton County, Children's Aid Society, Family Services of Haliburton County, Highlands Learning Centre, Good Food Box, and Food for Kids.

Christmas Basket Program



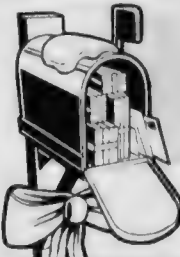
Christmas baskets will be handed out by the 4-C's Food Bank for the Eastern portion of Haliburton County and by the Minden Food Bank for the western portion of Haliburton County.

Each basket will contain a Christmas dinner plus a week's food for a family and presents for children.

On December 20th, the 4-C's Food Bank will be handing out the Christmas Baskets in Haliburton (on York St next to the Gallery) from 10am to 3pm, in Wilberforce at the Firehall from 10am to 3pm, and in Cardiff at the United Church from 10am to 3pm.

On December 21st from 1pm until 3 pm, 150 Christmas baskets will be picked up at the Minden Community Centre for all those who have registered. It is important to note that assembly of the baskets is due to the efforts of many tireless volunteers over a 2 day period. Please remember the Food Banks of this county and the people they serve, not just at Christmas but all through the year.

The staff and volunteers at the Food Banks across Haliburton County extend their thanks and wish everyone peace and harmony.



Happy Holidays
from Clarence, Jan & Lana
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MERRY CHRISTMAS
and best wishes for the New Year



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Q. What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

A. It's Christmas, Eve.

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Enjoy The Spirit and Joy Of Christmas



Wishing you the true spirit of Christmas all year long!

**From Council & Staff
Municipality of Highlands East**

How Turkey became the Festive Bird.....

In England, the harvest festival has been celebrated for many years. The story goes that Queen Elizabeth was sitting with the troops eating roast goose to celebrate the harvest festival. News was brought to her that the Spanish Armada had sunk on its way to attack England. The queen was so delighted that she ordered a second goose to celebrate the good news and thus, the goose became the choice bird at festival time in England.

When the pilgrims came to the New World, they carried on the tradition of celebrating the harvest festival but geese were not plentiful. Since there were lots of wild turkeys and they were easier to find, they roasted turkeys instead.

How the Turkey became the Bird of choice at Christmas....

Historically in England, swans, peacocks and cranes were roasted for special occasions. The story goes that because of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol", he is credited for popularizing the serving of turkey for Christmas dinner. Ebenezer Scrooge purchased the large prize winning turkey for Christmas dinner when seeing the error of his ways.



Christmas Stockings for the Whole Family

The tradition of the Christmas stockings began by a story told since ancient time about a kind noble man who had three daughters. The wife of the nobleman expired and the daughters and their father were left in a state of sorrow. The daughters had to do all the work in the house. When the daughters became young and eligible for marriage, the poor father could not afford to give the huge dowries to their husbands.

One evening the daughters, after washing their stockings hung them near the fire place to be dried. Santa Claus being moved by the plight of the daughters came in and put in three bags of gold one in each of the stocking hanging by the chimney. The next morning the family noticed the gold bags and the nobleman had enough for his daughter's marriage. The daughters got married and they lived happily ever after. Since then children have been hanging Christmas stockings.

Christmas stockings are supposed to have the gifts given by Santa Claus. The other gifts are wrapped in present papers and placed near the Christmas tree. It is believed that a child who misbehaves during the year will not get a gift in their Christmas stocking. The Christmas stockings are traditionally hung on the fireplace. But as most of the modern homes do not have a fireplace, any location is suitable for hanging the Christmas stockings. In many traditions the Christmas stocking is to be stuffed by a gift that will stimulate the five sensory organs.

The gift given by Santa Claus would be something to eat, a thing that makes a sound and gives a pleasant view to the eyes or gift which has a lovely fragrance.

In the present modern culture there are special Christmas stockings available in the market. Some families design unique stockings for each family member.

For Those Hard to Buy For People on your list..



SOURCE FOR SPORTS
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PERFECT!!

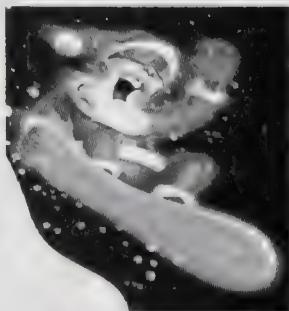
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a very Merry
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Wonderful & Happy
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Canada's "Ambassador of Good Cheer" Coming to Minden January 26

Jimmy Flynn has been entertaining audiences with his high-energy blend of side-splitting comedy and popular music for over 30 years. Now, he is so closely identified with having a good time that he is known as Canada's Ambassador of Good Cheer.

In his trademark red checkered shirt, yellow sou'wester and rubber boots, he hits the stage like a storm. In fact, you might want your own hat and boots, because in a matter of seconds, you'll be caught in a flash flood of jokes and music. The only time you won't be laughing is when you're singing along with him and the rest of the audience. Nobody sits still when Jimmy is on stage.

People relate to Jimmy Flynn. His ability to find the humour in everyday situations causes people to laugh at themselves. He helps break down the walls people sometimes build. It's not unusual for him to have the chairman of the board singing arm in arm with the shop steward. This interaction between a performer and his audience is a rare talent.

With his wide range of material, Jimmy can play to any audience. Whether it's for a convention of 200 or a festival of 30,000, there is something for everyone at a Jimmy Flynn Show. His range of humour and wide variety of musical offerings has him returning to many places for repeat performances. There will always be something new at the next Jimmy Flynn Show.

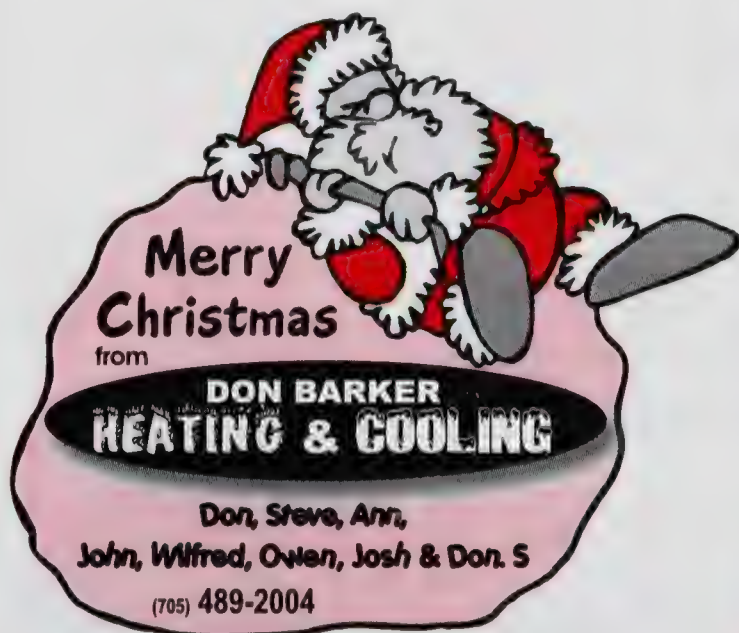
His live shows are only one aspect of his highly successful career. Jimmy became a popular radio and television personality during the early 1990's.

To date, he has produced and broadcast over 300 radio shows, a 13-week television series, three feature length videos which have gone double and triple platinum, seven gold CDs, a Christmas recording for children and a four time best selling joke book. He has been a spokesperson for companies such as the Pizza Delight Corporation of Canada, Walker Muffler International and Labatt Breweries.

Still, he is most at home on stage interacting with his audience. People can relate to him. They let their hair down and really enjoy themselves. And no crowd is too tough. He once played to 300 Germans who didn't speak a word of English, and still received a standing ovation!

Jimmy Flynn coming to Minden

Jimmy Flynn is playing at the Minden Community Centre on Saturday January 26. Admission is \$25 for the show or \$35 for dinner & show. Age of Majority required. Tickets are available at the Minden Arena and the Township Office. For more information on Jimmy, check his website at www.jimmyflynn.com.



Warmest Wishes To All This Holiday Season!

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Dumb Criminals

Three Arrested After Returning Printer With Counterfeit Money Inside

Police in Augusta, Georgia, say that three people wanted easy money, but instead made themselves an easy target for authorities. Police arrested the trio on the evening of November 28 after a Harlem man tried to return a printer to a Target store there with counterfeit money printed inside the machine.

A clerk told police that she was checking the package returned by the man, identified as 35-year-old Michael Jerome Chatman when she noticed a piece of paper inside the printer. On it were copies of a \$20 and \$10 bill, a Richmond County sheriff's report states.

Police say that Chatman quickly grabbed the printer and ran from the store but was stopped by a Richmond County deputy outside. They arrested 30-year-old Tiara Green and 24-year-old Kotto Yaphet Green both of the 3300 block of Jonathan Circle, and Chatman on charges of second-degree forgery, according to the report. Upon searching Chatman, police found a real \$20 bill that matched the copy inside the printer.

Anita Hopson, an investigator in the sheriff's technical crimes division, said that it is not often that individuals are caught in the process of making money. However, she said, they sometimes forget to cover their tracks.

"People get wrapped up in the crime, and they forget things," Investigator Hopson said. "In this situation it was just stupidity."

How to sing Jingle Bells

We suggest loudly

'Jingle Bells,' A winter carol by James L. Pierpoint (1827-93) originally entitled 'One Horse Open Sleigh' and meant for an 1857 Sunday school program in New York City. Pierpoint served with the Confederate cavalry in the American Civil War and was the uncle of financier J.P.Morgan.

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh,
Over the fields we go,
Laughing all the way;
Bells on bob-tail ring, making
spirits bright,
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all
the way!

O what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh

A day or two ago,
I thought I'd take a ride,
And soon Miss Fanny Bright
Was seated by my side;
The horse was lean and lank;
Misfortune seemed his lot;
He got into a drifted bank,
And we, we got upstot.

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all
the way!

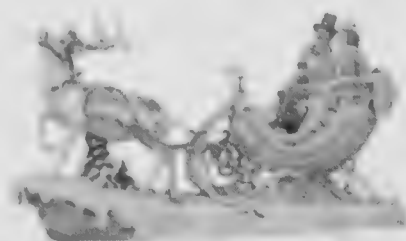
What fun it is
to ride
In a one-
horse open
sleigh.

A day or two ago, the story I
must tell
I went out on the snow
And on my back I fell;
A gent was riding by
In a one-horse open sleigh,
He laughed as there I sprawling
lie,
But quickly drove away.

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all
the way!

What fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.
Now the ground is white
Go it while you're young,
Take the girls tonight
And sing this sleighing song;
Just get a bob-tailed bay two-
forty as his speed
Hitch him to an open sleigh
And crack! you'll take the lead.
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all
the way!

What fun it is to ride
a one-horse
open sleigh.



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seasons
greetings



from The Staff and the Volunteers
at 100.9 Canoe FM

"The Voice of Haliburton County"

100.9



CANOE FM

Tune In For Christmas Music All Day Christmas Day!!

Holiday Greetings From Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation

By Dr. Robert Heyes & Dr. David Fiddler

We thank each and every one of you for your support to help us retire the capital debt on the facilities this past March. It was truly a community effort and we can all be proud of our two hospital and health care facilities in Haliburton County.

We are very excited about the new technology we have acquired and are pleased to advise you that they are already in use at both facilities. The Picture Archiving Communication Systems (PACS) makes use of computers and electronic networks to view, store and transmit diagnostic images digitally. What this means is you no longer have to wait for the x-rays to be processed and developed, come back and pick them up and then take the x-rays to your specialist. Think how many steps this will save you! Not only that, but the images are much clearer and this process is more efficient, giving your doctor instant results! With this new technology, your doctor can initiate care and treatment immediately. Some of you may have experienced this already!

This new initiative involves 35 other hospitals and enables Haliburton Highlands Health Services to have technical support and net working expertise we otherwise would not have. That is why the Health Services felt it was so important to put this technology in place now!

We mentioned that we are excited about this new technology and the fact that we can consult with our peers no matter where they are is wonderful! We have found it to be very satisfying to be

able to call our radiologists in Peterborough for instantaneous consultation and not have to wait for film transportation.

We are pleased about the progress of our \$2.5 million campaign launched in June for equipment, the PACS and associated technology. Thank you to the individuals, corporations, service clubs and organizations that have come forward with donations and pledges. We trust your support will continue as we help fund the PACS and new equipment for the comfort, care and safety of our patients, residents and staff.

Give to the Health Services Foundation Today... Help Reach for the Future !!

By sending your donation to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation today, you will be helping to fund this new \$1.1 million technology. The government has provided only partial funding which is why we are asking for your support. Each donation whether it is large or small makes a substantial difference. Help decorate our trees with a tag reflecting your name.

Together, we can "Reach for the Future" to fund new equipment and technology to bring care closer to home.

Thank you.

Donate Online

by going to www.hhhs.on.ca/donate.htm

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email: foundation@hhhs.on.ca www/hhhs/on/ca/foundation.html

YES, I want to help Reach For The Future:

- ☐ \$35. ☐ \$50. ☐ \$100. ☐ \$200. ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Please find enclosed my cheque payable to the HHHS Foundation.

- ☐ I prefer to charge my donation to my credit card.

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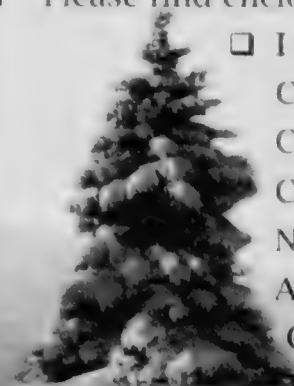
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A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

☐ Please do not acknowledge my donation in the media Christmas Letter 2007

Meet Miss Julia at the Library

By Diane Peacock, Supervisor

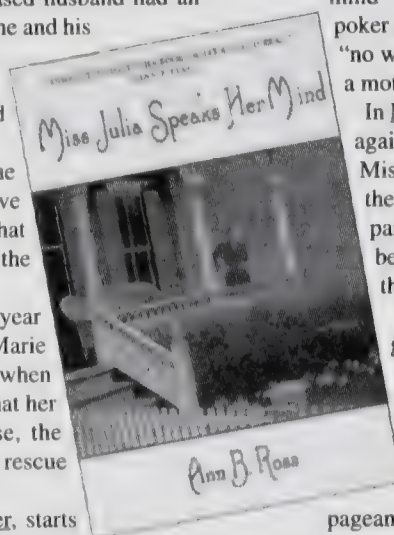
What do you do when you find out your deceased husband had an affair and fathered a 9 year old boy? Then one day he and his mom show up on your doorstep! This is the challenge that faces the main character in Ann B. Ross' books about a southern genteel lady named Miss Julia Springer.

There are 8 books in the *Miss Julia* series with the 9th one to be released in April. I will attempt to give you an overview of these hilarious books, hoping that I will pique your interest and entice you to visit the library.

In *Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind*, we meet her, 9 year old step-son Little Lloyd and his mother Hazel Marie Puckett. What is the community going to think when they find out about Little Lloyd? Add in the fact that her husband's will might leave her in the poorhouse, the kidnapping of Little Lloyd by his uncle and the rescue attempt and you have a fun filled adventure.

Miss Ross' second book, *Miss Julia Takes Over*, starts where the first leaves off. Hazel Marie doesn't return home from a date and Miss Julia starts to worry. She turns private detective and the fun begins. After a trip across the state, a chase around a NASCAR race track, and a ride in a race car transporter Julia reunites her family and things return to normal.

In *Miss Julia Throws a Wedding*, Julia decides to organize a wedding in one week for her boarder, a police officer. Will the wedding go off without a hitch? You will have to read this hilarious book to find out.



Miss Julia Hits the Road is, I think, the best one yet. Miss Julia's maid Lillian is in jeopardy of losing her home and her friend Sam is losing his mind – he bought a motorcycle! Someone suggests having a poker run on bikes to raise the needed funds. Miss Julia says "no way" until someone pledges \$1,000.00 if she will ride on a motorcycle. She concedes and the adventure begins.

In *Miss Julia Meets Her Match* we find Miss Julia in trouble again. Her beau Sam is insisting she set a wedding date, but Miss Julia is not sure she wants to take that big step. Add to the fact that someone is trying to build a religious theme park on leased land that belongs to Little Lloyd. The fun begins when she tries to oust the park and head off Sam at the same time.

In book 6, *Miss Julia's School of Beauty*, Miss Julia gets roped into helping Hazel Marie put on a beauty pageant to choose Miss Abbot County Sheriff's Department. She has to teach the contestants charm and poise while facing the question about the legitimacy of her marriage to Sam! The adventure continues as Sam tries to track down the minister and the beauty pageant takes place.

In her 7th book *Miss Julia Stands Her Ground*, Hazel Marie's uncle comes back to town and says he has proof that Little Lloyd is not her step-son. With DNA testing the only way to prove him wrong, will Miss Julia have to exhume poor Wesley Lloyd? Find out as you laugh your way through this book.

Finally in her latest book *Miss Julia Strikes Back*, Miss Julia finds herself alone as Sam is touring Russia and Hazel Marie is in Mexico. She invites 25 of her closest friends for a party and after they leave discovers her engagement ring is missing. Packing Little Lloyd and Etta Mae Wiggins they head for Palm Beach for some sand, surf and a stakeout. It won't be long before they have their man.

Coming in April 2008 Miss Julia returns with her 9th book titled *Miss Julia Paints the Town*.

You can get these books through the Haliburton County Library System – Minden Branch. We are open Tuesday and Wednesday's 10 – noon and 1-5; Thursday's 1-5 and 7-9; Friday's 1 – 5 and Saturday's noon – 5. All you need is a membership and you can start enjoying these and many other books available in our collection.

Our Christmas hours have been announced and the library will be closed December 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and the 28th. We will be open regular hours on the 29th, Noon – 5:00 pm. We are also closed on January 1st and the 2nd. We will be open regular hours on the 3rd, 1 – 5 and 7 – 9. I want to take this opportunity on behalf of Catherine and Wendy and myself to wish all our patrons a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ANN B. ROSS @ your library

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Spot the Differences

Now you See it... now you Don't...



Can you spot the 12 differences between these two pictures...

See answers on pg. 84



Seasons' Greetings from everyone at The Highlands Communicator & the County Voice !!!



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The Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas and all round my hips
Were Fannie May candies that sneaked past my lips.
Fudge brownies were stored in the freezer with care
In hopes that my thighs would forget they were there.
While Mama in her girdle and I in chin straps
Had just settled down to sugar-borne naps.
When out in the pantry there arose such a clatter
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the kitchen I flew like a flash,
Tore open the icebox then threw up the sash.
The marshmallow look of the new-fallen snow
Sent thoughts of a binge to my body below.
When what to my wandering eyes should appear
A marzipan Santa with eight chocolate reindeer!
That huge chunk of candy so luscious and slick
I knew in a second that I'd wind up sick.
The sweet-coated santa, those sugared reindeer
I closed my eyes tightly but still I could hear;
On Pritzker, on Stillman, on weak one, on TOPS
A Weight Watcher dropout from sugar detox.
From the top of the scales to the top of the hall
Now dash away pounds now dash away all.
Dressed up in Lane Bryant from my head to nightdress
My clothes were all bulging from too much excess.
My droll little mouth and my round little belly,
They shook when I laughed like a bowl full of jelly.
I spoke not a word but went straight to my work
Ate all of the candy then turned with a jerk.
And laying a finger beside my heartburn
Gave a quick nod toward the bedroom I turned.
I eased into bed, to the heavens I cry--
If temptation's removed I'll get thin by and by.
And I mumbled again as I turned for the night
In the morning I'll starve... 'til I take that first bite!

Bad Predictions *Can I Take That Back Now....*

"Discoveries which seem approaching their ultimate condition are telephony, photography, illumination and apparently labor-saving machinery in some of its fields, since the performance of some machines appears to have practically reached perfection... We cannot, indeed, well conceive of a greater activity of invention and a more rapid unfoldment of new processes than we have had before us in the nineteenth century... One by one each of the varied lines of invention will reach its ultimatum and gradually the activity of man in this direction decrease. While the twentieth century may be as active in the development of mechanism as the nineteenth has been, it seems unlikely to be more so, and in succeeding centuries, inventive activity must decline for want of fields in which to exercise itself."
- Charles Morris, the Marvelous Record of the Closing Century, 1899.

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IN THE LOCKER ROOM

By Terrance Gavan

Mitchell's Steroid Report Is In Steerike' Threeree'! And you're outtaaa' here!!!!

Former US Senator George Mitchell's long awaited report on the use of steroids and human growth hormone in Major League Baseball hit the newsstands last week to boffo box office reviews.

Senator George said that: "Everyone involved in baseball over the past two decades – commissioners, club officials, the players' association and players – shares to some extent the responsibility for the steroids era."

Here's what I think about that.

Steeeeeerrriike Threeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! And youuuuuuu're outtaaaaaa here!!!!

It took the good Senator 20 months and 409 pages to crank out that lame and self-serving epitaph. Mitchell is also, presumably not coincidentally, a member of the Boston Red Sox ownership group.

Here's what I think about that.

Dear Senator: Please Sir... it's almost Christmas... 409 pages?... did we have to kill off half the Amazon Rain Forest to draw up an incomplete list of various and sundry baseball cheaters. And by the way Senator, as a part owner of a very rich franchise, with a presumed large stake in your bottom line: Do the words "conflict of interest" ring any bells?

Here's what I think about that.

Steeeeeerrriike Threeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! And youuuuuuu're outtaaaaaa here!!!!

Jose Canseco wrote a book too. It came out way before the Mitchell Report and it had a much catchier title. *Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits and How Baseball Got Big?* Because Canseco, a former Blue Jay, was not exactly a Rhodes Scholar and because his writing style was more Seuss than Hemingway, few sports writers or baseball honchos took Canseco seriously.

Here's what we know about Jose today.

If even a quarter of the allegations in his book are true, it's still a more compelling indictment of the game inside the game than Mitchell's supposedly well-researched tome.

Here's what Barry Bonds said earlier this year in a tirade to reporters in front of his locker.

"Names, names, names... I want to hear some names... give me some names!!!"

Here's what I think about that.

Barry, Barry, Barry... be careful what you wish for dude! It may come true.

And oh yeah.

Steeeeeerrriike Threeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! And youuuuuuu're outtaaaaaa here!!!!

Another player, Rafael Palmeiro was named, once again, in this report as a cheater.

Raffi made headlines a while back when he pointed at a Senate Chairman while under oath at a senate hearing and sputtered in disgust: "I have never used those substances... ever." Funnily enough, as he was grappling with the Senate Subcommittee and pointing into the face of the Senators on the panel... defiant in his proclamation of innocence... Rafael had already tested positive for a controlled substance.

Here's what I think about that.

Pointing at the High Road does not pull you outta' the ditch Raffi!

And oh yeah!

Steeeeeerrriike Threeeeeeeeeeeeeeee! And youuuuuuu're outtaaaaaa here!!!!

Another former Blue Jay and Cy Young Award winner, Roger Clemens was also named in the report.

Here's what a young fan once said to Shoeless Joe Jackson shortly after his lifetime ban from baseball during the infamous Chicago White Sox gambling fiasco.

"Say it ain't so Joe!... say it ain't so!"

Locker Room cont'd... pg. 27...

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To our friends and neighbours, we'd like to say "Thank You" for all your support this year!

Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year

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Locker Room Cont'd...

... from pg. 26

Here's what was said in the report about Roger Clemens. Clemens asked Toronto Blue Jay strength coach Brian McNamee to inject him with the steroid Winstrol on four occasions in Roger's Sky Dome apartment. Injections were delivered into his buttocks, which is, coincidentally, where most big league cheaters also store their noggins.

Here's what Rocket Roger the artful dodger is saying about that.

"It ain't so... it ain't so!"

But like the rest of the 76 players named in the report, Roger, refused to talk to Mitchell on the record.

And so here's what I think about Roger and his tepid, shoeless and bankrupt denial.

Steeeeeerrrrrike Threeeeeeeeeeeeeee! And youuuuuuu're outtaaaaaa here!!!!

Blue Jays boss Paul Godfrey is pleading the fifth... or is he drinking a fifth? I can never quite tell, because of the loopy non sequiturs emanating from the general vicinity of his blow hole on an almost daily basis.

Nine former and present Blue Jays were named in the report, including Troy Glaus who inexplicably had growth hormone delivered to his house. Catcher Greg Zaun was also named in the report. Godfrey appeared on TSN's Off The Record and refused to address the question, saying that both players were exonerated because at the end of his report Mitchell concluded that no punitive action should be taken vis-a-vis the players named.

Here's what ostriches do when they come face to face with their own mortality.

They stick their heads in the nearest pile of sand.

Here's what I know about Paul Godfrey, George Mitchell and all of the other owners and managing partners of major league baseball teams.

They have a lot in common with a certain Australian flightless bird.

Oh, and one more thing about the owners, who for years turned cheeks and raked profit on the backs of power hitters, power pitchers and juiced-up Venice Beach Sideshow Freaks.

Steeeeeerrrrrike Threeeeeeeeeeeeeee! And youuuuuuu're outtaaaaaa here!!!!

A Special Note for all Highlands' Sports Afficianadoes

Sports fans in Haliburton please take note.

There's a new sports voice in town.

The Communicator Staff is starting a new weekly paper and we intend to cover the gamut of sports and sports-related events in the Highlands.

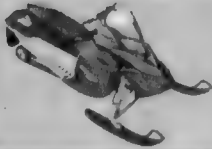
Coaches and players, please feel free to get in touch with me (The County Voice's new Sports Editor) at any time via the Communicator email address or email me personally at gav@creativeflight.com.

Get in touch with any story lines, sporting events or tournaments.

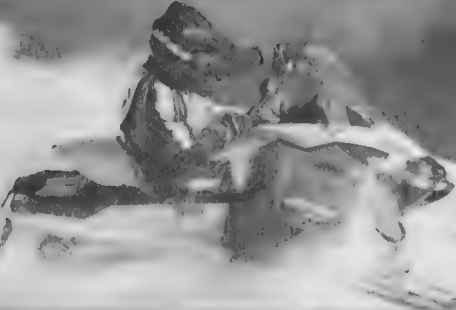
Q. What is a snowman's favorite lunch?
A. An Iceberger!

Publisher's note: Joanne here... just to let you know that effective the new year when our in-town offices open in Minden and Haliburton, new emails will be available for the different department heads. You will be able to email our sports editor at sports@countyvoice.ca For news you will be able to reach our news department at news@countyvoice.ca or direct to our news editor, Stephen Patrick at editor@countyvoice.ca.

Our phone numbers will be 457-5001 - fax: 457-5004



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	4	1		8		5		
1				2			3	
			7		1			
	8	2						7

Level: Hard
See solution on pg. 85

Don't Forget The Batteries

As you shop for family and friends this holiday season, don't forget that many of this year's hottest gifts are battery-powered. Whether it's a PDA, a portable MP3 jukebox or a talking toy cash register, be sure to power this holiday's must-have gifts with a brand of battery you can trust.

Don't forget to stuff battery-operated toys with batteries before you wrap them, so you can instantly capture children's excitement on camera as they tear open the presents and immediately begin to play. Also, ensure you have an ample supply of premium-quality batteries on hand for long-lasting, reliable power in the presents they'll play with again and again.

Stock up on batteries in advance, and follow these six tips from Duracell for dependable alkaline battery performance:

- Always use the size and type of battery specified by the manufacturer.
- Avoid hiding or storing battery-powered presents in very warm or cold places. Extreme temperatures reduce battery performance.
- Store batteries in a dry place at normal room temperature. Do not refrigerate batteries-this won't make them last longer.
- Remove batteries from equipment while it is being powered by household (AC) current.
- Do not store batteries loosely or carry them loose in a pocket or purse-they can be shorted, leak or rupture due to contact with metal objects.
- Always replace all batteries in a toy or device at the same time-mixing old and new batteries will reduce overall performance and could cause leakage or rupture.



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Think it's okay to Drink & Drive even once? Read This...

I went to a party,
And remembered what you said.
You told me not to drink, Mum
So I had a sprite instead.

I felt proud of myself,
The way you said I would,
That I didn't drink and drive,
Though some friends said I should.

I made a healthy choice,
And your advice to me was right,
The party finally ended,
And the kids drove out of sight.

I got into my car,
Sure to get home in one piece,
I never knew what was coming, Mum
Something I expected least.

Now I'm lying on the pavement,
And I hear the policeman say,
The kid that caused this wreck was drunk,
Mum, his voice seems far away.

My own blood's all around me,
As I try hard not to cry.
I can hear the paramedic say,
This girl is going to die.

I'm sure the guy had no idea,
While he was flying high,
Because he chose to drink and drive,
Now I would have to die.

So why do people do it, Mum
Knowing that it ruins lives?
And now the pain is cutting me,
Like a hundred stabbing knives.

Someone should have taught him,
That it's wrong to drink and drive.
Maybe if his parents had,
I'd still be alive.

My breath is getting shorter, Mum
I'm getting really scared.
These are my final moments,
And I'm so unprepared.

I wish that you could hold me Mum,
As I lie here and die.
I wish that I could say, "I love you, Mum!"
So I love you and good-bye.

No Need To Eat Alone at Christmas...



A Mission Of Love III

A delicious complimentary Traditional Turkey Dinner for those alone at Christmas will be held Christmas Day starting at 4:00 pm with Eggnog and Carols followed by dinner at 5:00 p.m. If you would like to attend, please call Lakeside Baptist and ask for Dale or Cathy Dovell at 447-2319. There is no reason to spend Christmas alone this year. Enjoy both the great meal and wonderful company being offered by the Lakeside Baptist Church located at 9 Park Street, Haliburton.

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From the Families
& Staff of

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New Owners for Millennium Lifestyles Health and Fitness Centre

Sandy and Ken Stevens are the new owners of the Millennium Lifestyles Health and Fitness Centre complex, taking over from Ron and Sheila Stackhouse.

Sandy and Ken are very industrious people, as will become apparent in the following brief history. "Ken and I have been heavily involved in running a Christian Mission charity organization called *Put the Word Into Action*. We've been working on projects with local and international children and families to help build them spiritually, educationally and physically. We also started Tall Oaks Christian Academy, at Camp Madeba in West Guilford, and we've been involved in relief and mission work in Equador and Jamaica." Sandy's been in Bolivia as well, working alongside *Compassion Canada*, which helps disadvantaged children and families.

"Ken is originally from Huntsville, and I'm from London Ontario," she reveals. "We met here in the Highlands when we were both working at the Pinestone, and we got married in '86. We have 3 sons; Paul 19, Luke 18, and Joel 13. Ken is the food service and site director at Medeba, and he's been there close to 10 years now. My

volunteer work keeps me busy most of the time and we decided we needed an income property, and a location that some day might be used as a base for the charity, and perhaps for Tall Oaks. There are a lot of bylaws and hoops to go through yet, and it might not get there, but we'll see."



In the meantime there's the Fitness Centre to concern herself with. "I want to get the message across that we're still open for business as normal, and we're looking for new clients," Sandy says emphatically. "I bought the business from Sheila Stackhouse," she confides, "and Ken and I purchased the land and buildings together."

"Kim Burke is still managing the day to-day operations of the Fitness Centre," Sandy continues, "There's no major changes, and we're still committed to helping people realize their fitness and lifestyle goals. Heather Seabrooke is still with us, and is available for personal training and consultation."

Sandy has some ideas for the immediate future. "We're thinking of offering a Lifestyle Challenge to the Community of Haliburton," she says rather cryptically, "to basically improve their physical and emotional health. There will be more information around that in the New Year."

So keep your eyes on the Communicator all those in need of physical and emotional improvement in the New Year, (and that might be the majority of us.) "We want to encourage people to set some new achievable physical goals for the New Year," says Sandy. Ah, achievable goals, what a lovely idea. It's the physical part that a lot of people have some difficulty with. But fear not my out-of-shape friends, for after New Years you will be joined by a multitude

Millennium cont'd... pg. 31...

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!! CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT TRAILS & TOURS??

For that hard to buy for person on your list, why not help out a not for profit organization and Adopt-A-Metre fo Trail in his or her name today!

The Trails and Tours Network would like to say "Thank You" to members, volunteers and the community for thier continued support.

For winter FUN visit us at www.trailsandtours.com or to Experience Haliburton in the winter, check out www.experiencehaliburton.com. Or phone us at 705-489-4049.

Ho, Ho, Ho

Our best wishes
for happy holidays!
Hope your Christmas is merry and
bright and your new year brings
you everything you've dreamed of!

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Millennium cont'd...

... from pg. 30



of similar turkey-toned individuals wanting to get back into those slinky slacks. Millennium Lifestyles has all the equipment you'll need to realize those achievable goals.

Some of the equipment you can

use to get in shape includes treadmills, elliptical trainers, stationary bikes, rowing machines, weights and free weights, bosu balls, boxing equipment and a video/dvd library.

All the gear is state of the art, and the workout areas are spotless, with lots of mirrors for checking on your progress. The stationary bikes and treadmills also have tv monitors to look at, in case you become bored, or need a distraction while you slim away the pounds, and hone up that physique.

Millennium Lifestyles offers programs to individuals and groups such as Community Care and Special Needs adults. So, check with them to ascertain your individual or group needs. The basic fee is \$60/month. There are three payment options available, and there's discounts and student rates. Guests can go for a try-out for the measly sum of \$5. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Millennium Lifestyles is located at 94 Harmony Rd, Haliburton. Call them at (705) 457-1700, email millennium.lifestyles@symnpatico.ca. The web site is

www.millenniumlifestyles.ca

Pictured: Sandy Stevens; People working out on equipment



Peace

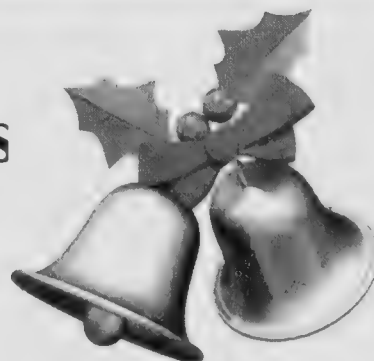
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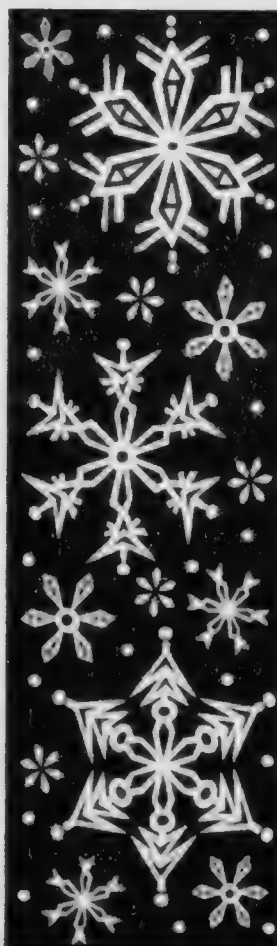
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Christmas Bells



For centuries, bells of churches have rung forth the glad tiding of Jesus' birth. In medieval times the bells tolled for an hour before midnight on Christmas Eve, and then on the hour their voices changed to joyous ringing. The tolling was to warn the powers of darkness of the approaching birth of the Savior. It was believed "the devil died when Christ was born" and in England, the tolling of church bells was known as "Tolling The Devil's Knell." As a result, bells have become a part of our Christmas decorations, mostly in imitation form. You will also see many varieties on Christmas cards.

Many families will adorn their Christmas tree with bells and remind their children that, "...whenever a bell rings an angel gets its wings" These words were immortalized by Clarence the angel, and the daughter, Zuzu, the classic holiday movie, "It's A Wonderful Life."



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My Best Christmas Gift

Spunky Left an Indelible Mark

By Terrance Gavan

I first met Spunky a week before Christmas.

He appeared as part of a bundle of joy on CTV Winnipeg's *Uncle Bob's Children's Show*.

A litter of nine puppies and their mother were left on the back door stoop of the Winnipeg Humane Society.

It was -25 C and a brisk norwester was blowin' in from somewhere east of Siberia the night they were deposited on the stoop. The person who left them couldn't have known that the back entrance was used only on an interim basis.

The on-call animal control officer who arrived at the back door with a dog at 3 a.m. didn't know how long the litter had been there, but he said the mother was dutifully huddling as many bodies as she could muster close to her warm belly and chest.

Some of the puppies were suffering from minor frostbite on their paws and ears, but Lefty (a name given by the shelter staff to the brave, beautiful and caring mum) had somehow managed to keep all nine of her offspring warm and safe.

The story was leaked to the press and for a while Lefty and her litter became Winnipeg's Christmas cause celebre. They made the rounds on all the TV talk shows, were the headliners on the local cable channel's Humane Society show and were featured on news spots on all three Winnipeg television stations.

It was Christmas and the story was a natural.

I was channel-surfing one morning and had almost clicked by Uncle Bob on channel 25. I stopped in mid-surf when I heard the familiar yip of a happy puppy. Lefty was center stage with four of her "miracle" offspring.

One puppy caught my eye. He had curly hair and a determined glint in those bright puppy eyes. I knew the minute I laid eyes on him... he was special.

I phoned the Humane Society and was given an appointment to see Lefty and her litter the next day.

I arrived at the Humane Society bright and early. I was led into the kennel area by a friendly staffer. The place went wild. Every cage erupted in unholy yips, howls and barks. Every dog and every cage was in full Baskerville crank.

Except for one. Lefty seemed immune to the din. An island of serenity midst a seething cauldron of yowl.

Her tongue was out and her tail was wagging. But she made no sound. All of her puppies followed mom's lead, tails wagging, bright eyes watching, but nary a peep as we approached the kennel.

My heart dropped as I perused the pen.

I looked at the volunteer and blurted: "He's not here!"

"Who's not here?" asked the helpful staffer.

"The puppy... the one with the curls... has he been adopted?" I asked anxiously. The kind volunteer could see the panic forming.

"Oh, my goodness, no," she said. "Curly and another puppy are out doing another TV show... they're our Christmas celebrities! Are you interested in that puppy?"

"Yes I am... they're all beautiful... but he's the one that caught my eye... and I have no idea why," I said, just a little sheepishly.

She laughed and then gave me a nod. "Oh, I think I know why... he's my favorite too... it's his eyes... it's almost like he knows something and he's not lettin' anyone else in on the secret." She laughed again. "I know it's probably in my mind, but I sometimes get the idea that he's winking at me," and she smiled.

"He'll be back from the TV station shortly... until then would you like to meet our Christmas Miracles?"

I spent the next fifteen minutes enduring Lefty's licks and the unending swarm and soft nuzzles of a very happy gaggle of puppies.

I finally met Spunky in the front office. Deal done. I took one look and fell in love.

"We can let him go home with you tomorrow if that's all right," said the person at the desk.

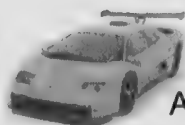
It was four days to Christmas and I made sure I was at the Humane Society five minutes before they opened their doors on the appointed day. I had picked up four books on dog training, a blanket, teething ball, beautiful blue collar and 4 boxes of various and sundry puppy treats.

It was cold out and I made sure the car was warm and Spunky was wrapped tightly in his new blanket. We said goodbye to Lefty and Spunky's brothers and sisters. I found out later that Lefty and

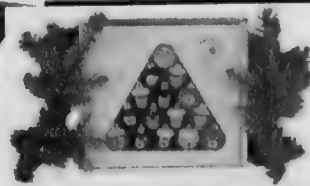
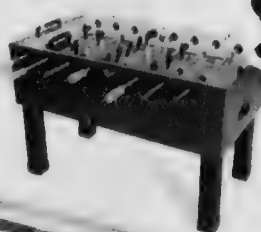
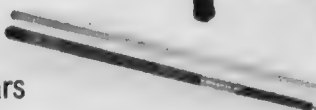
Spunky cont'd... pg. 33...

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Spunky: My Best Gift Ever cont'd...

... from pg. 32

all of her puppies eventually found their way to good homes, a record for a litter that size.

Spunky was listed as a Terrier-Border Collie cross on his adoption papers. Terriers are tenacious and Spunky's doggedness was evident from the moment he touched down in the Gavan household.

We arrived home and played "tug the blanket" for hours on the shiny and warm linoleum of our kitchen in the small house in River Heights. He invented the game. He grabbed his blanket and approached me warily, teetering awkwardly on unsure puppy legs, daring me to take it away.

One tug was all it took to snapfire those Terrier neurons into action. No amount of pulling, jerking, cajoling or ersatz human growling could dislodge the blanket from Spunky's tenacious grasp. He especially loved spinning 360's on the tiles, eyes bright and shiny white teeth firmly entrenched, locked and loaded on blanket.

And that's how we spent our first Christmas morning together. It was 6 a.m. and I was wearing my Christmas present, a new Notre Dame sweatshirt that I still have to this day. Someone had placed a bow on Spunky's collar.

He teetered into the kitchen, blanket set in clenched teeth, circling warily. A card attached to the blanket said simply... Merry Christmas.

I sat on the floor and tugged and growled and spun him till I was dizzy. I lay down on my back and looked up as he crawled onto my chest.

And right there, I saw it. Unmistakable. A wink, so subtle that I wasn't really sure it happened.

And then Spunky casually cocked his leg, wobbled just a bit and proceeded to pee all over my brand new Notre Dame Christmas Jersey.

And the kitchen suddenly erupted in uncontrolled and chaotic spasms of laughter. Five Christmas guests had been watching in the doorway. We laughed for 10 minutes, non-stop. My sides still hurt well into the latter part of Boxing Day.

To this day, I have never received a better Christmas present.

Spunky and I spent the next 17 years together. And I came to realize that the wink was always the preface to a nudge. And I know that the canny lady at the Humane Society had it right.

"It's almost like he knows something and he's not lettin' anyone else in on the secret."

And so now every Christmas, I put on that old, tattered Notre Dame Jersey. I lie on the floor, flat on my back.

And I close my eyes. And I remember unconditional love and my best gift ever.

And then I take a quick glance upward and I wink.

Spunky passed away in BC just two days before they flew the planes into the World Trade Center. He is buried on the Shuswap Reserve just outside of Invermere, BC, high on a hill in the Fairmont Range. He was a good friend and trusted companion. He is succeeded by Billie-Jean whose wink is implied.



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Two Wolves

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two "wolves" inside us all

One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

That's Life...

by the Bashful Comic



Why Men Don't Write Advice Columns

Dear Walter:

I hope you can help me here. The other day I set off for work leaving my husband in the house watching the TV as usual. I hadn't gone more than a mile down the road when my engine conked out and the car shuddered to a halt. I walked back home to get my husband's help. When I got home I couldn't believe my eyes. He was in the bedroom with a neighbour lady making mad passionate love to her. I am 32, my husband is 34 and we have been married for twelve years. When I confronted him, he broke down and admitted that he'd been having an affair for the past six months. I told him to stop or I would leave him. He was let go from his job six months ago and he says he has been feeling increasingly depressed and worthless. I love him very much, but ever since I gave him the ultimatum he has become increasingly distant. I don't feel I can get through to him anymore.

Can you please help?

Sincerely, Mrs.. Sheila Usk

Dear Sheila:

A car stalling after being driven a short distance can be caused by a variety of faults with the engine. Start by checking that there is no debris in the fuel line. If it is clear, check the jubilee clips holding the vacuum pipes onto the inlet manifold. If none of these approaches solves the problem, it could be that the fuel pump itself is faulty, causing low delivery pressure to the carburettor float chamber.

I hope this helps.

Q. What did the ghost say to Santa Claus?

A. I'll have a boo Christmas without you.



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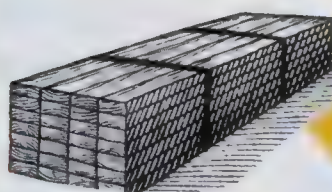
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Who Was St. Nicholas?



December sixth is the festival of St. Nicholas, but nowadays we celebrate him on Christmas Day as Santa Claus. The real St. Nicholas was a bishop in Asia Minor, who died about 342 A.D. He became the patron saint of Russia and of children sailor, merchants, and those in sudden danger.

There is a story about him which tells how one day he heard a man and his three daughters bemoaning the fact

that all their money had gone and that they would have to go out and beg to be able to buy food. Nicholas had three bags of gold, and two of these he put secretly — on two successive nights — through the window of the man's home. The man thought that the gold had come from God. On the third night he saw Nicholas put in the third bag of gold and fell at his feet.

Nicholas told him to give thanks to God. "It was He who sent me to you," he said. This story, like many of the stories which attach themselves to saints, may or may not be true, but it certainly is a lovely tale and is one of the reasons we connect St. Nicholas with the giving of presents at Christmas time.



patron saint of judges, murderers, pawnbrokers, thieves, merchants, paupers, scholars, sailors, bakers, travelers, maidens and poor children. He is known as the friend and protector of all those in trouble.

Saint Nicholas was born in the Middle East about 350 miles northwest of Bethlehem in the fourth century. He grew up to become the bishop of Myra (now Kale), his hometown, Lycia, near the coast of what is now Turkey. Legends tell of his love for children, his kindness and the miracles he brought about.

Perhaps the most famous story of all tells how he helped three unfortunate young sisters who all had suitors but had no dowries because their father, a poor nobleman, could not raise the money. So they could not marry.

Now the bishop Nicholas was a shy man and did not like to give money directly, so he thought of a way to give it anonymously. When the first daughter was ready to marry, the good bishop tossed a bag of gold into the house at night. Later, when the second daughter prepared to marry, she too received a mysterious bag of gold. When the third daughter prepared to marry, the poor nobleman was determined to find out who had been so generous. So he kept watch and saw the bishop drop another bag of gold into the house. It has been said that Saint Nicholas climbed on the roof and dropped the third bag of gold down the chimney where it landed in a stocking hung to dry, giving us a reason to hang up

Christmas stockings today. When the father saw what had happened, Nicholas begged him to keep the secret, but, of course, the news got out. From then on, whenever anyone received an unexpected gift, they thanked Nicholas.

Six hundred years later, the Russian Emperor Vladimir visited Constantinople and heard all the wonderful stories about Bishop Nicholas and decided to make him the patron saint of Russia. The stories even spread to the Laplands - to the people of the reindeer sleds.

The three bags of gold Nicholas gave the sisters made him the focus of merchants in northern Italy. Statutes and pictures had shown him holding the three bags and when taken as the patron saint of the merchants, the bags became gold balls, representing money lenders and today, pawnbrokers.

The anniversary of Nicholas' death, December 6th, either 345 A.D. or 352 A.D., is so close to Christmas that, in many countries, the two merged. But in Germany and the Netherlands, the two remain separate.

Saint Nicholas - The Legend Begins

St. Nicholas cont'd... pg. 37...

The Real Saint Nicholas

Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of just about everything. He is the national saint of Russia and Greece and churches named after him number in the thousands - more than 400 in Great Britain alone. He is the

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Santa Evolves Through The Ages

... from pg. 36

Saint Nicholas was not left to rest in peace after his death, for in those days the bodies of holy men were of great value, not only spiritually but commercially. News leaked that the Venetians were coming to carry off the saint's body. The merchant seamen of the port of Bari in south-eastern Italy were determined to divert them. On May 9, 1087, they made a raid on Myra, took the Saint's remains and carried them back home to Bari, where they are to this day in the beautiful Basilica of Saint Nicholas, which was built to house them. Through the centuries the shrine has been visited and sometimes experienced miracles. They offered prayers to Saint Nicholas, who was known to have had such a care for all who are poor and needy, whether in mind or body.

During the Reformation all saints fell into disrepute in parts of Europe that took to the Protestant faith. Reformers did everything they could to erase the popular Saint Nicholas. But despite their efforts, they were never completely successful. Even though he was removed from the church, Saint Nicholas continued his popularity in the streets and homes. In Germany he put nuts and apples in the shoes of Protestant children under the guise of the Christchild. In 1545 Martin Luther's children received gifts from the "Holychild," after previous receiving them from Saint Nicholas. The Christchild and Saint Nicholas were described as wanderers, traveling afoot or by chariot or by horseback, examining the deeds of mankind, children especially, for good behavior and rewarding them with the apples, nuts, and sweets.

Parents quickly began using these "visits" to encourage good behavior from their offspring. It was also known that bad children received switches from Saint Nicholas. More often than not, Saint Nicholas had an assistant to hand out any discipline and particularly in Germanic Europe, the visit was an occasion of a solemn, sometimes terrifying experience for children before being given goodies.

Dutch children were told that Saint Nicholas, or Sinterklaas, sailed from Spain with a Moorish helper. They filled their shoes with hay and sugar for his horse and woke up to find the shoes filled with nuts and candies. When he was actually seen, dressed in his bishop's robes and carrying presents and a birch rod, he knew a great deal about the children's behavior and resembled father or older brother.

Black Peter walks along with Sinterklaas. He wears animal skins or sometimes the colorful clothing of the medieval Moor and gives a switch to parents of bad boys and girls. Some say the bad children are taken away in the sack that Black Peter carries on his back.

Santa Discovers America

Europeans first brought Saint Nicholas to America in the fifteenth century. On his first voyage, Columbus named a port in Haiti for Saint Nicholas; and the Spaniards originally called Jackson, Florida, "Saint Nicholas Ferry". When the Dutch emigrated to America they took their beloved saint with them. At the prow of the ship in which they sailed to the New World in 1630 was a figure of Saint Nicholas. He wore a broad-brimmed hat and held a long-stemmed Dutch pipe. But at the same time the Reformation was fiercely dividing their homeland. A ban was placed on the celebration of Saint Nicholas Eve, forbidding passing out of cook-

ies and cakes to children, a custom that had been as entrenched as our own trick-or-treating on Halloween. Saint Nicholas never regained his wide popularity and virtually disappeared as 17th century Dutch New Amsterdam was becoming 18th century English New York. With their arrival, the Dutch Sinterklaas did become forerunner for Santa Claus in the United States. German immigrants brought with them a positive attitude toward Christmas. They brought their custom of setting out hay in the barnyard for the Christchild's donkey on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day finding the basket filled with snits (dried apple slices), choosets (candy), walnuts and gingerbread. As the Germans intermarried with the English, the dialect "Christ-kindel," from the proper German Christkindlein, became "Kristkingle" or "Kriss-kingle." Eventually the "Kriss Kringle" replaced the Christchild figure entirely, a substitute akin to Santa Claus. By the latter half of the nineteenth century, Kriss Kringle was the most common Christmas bearer in Pennsylvania.

Pelznickel (Saint Nicholas in furs), another Old World German Christmas servant, was better known as "Belsnickel. He had been portrayed as someone out to have some fun by scaring children half to death, before changing character and giving them sweets. In more southern states of the America, Belsnickel was said to kidnap bad children and carry them away to who knows where. Children's imaginations called up fates worse than anything the adults might suggest. He rattles at windows with a horsewhip and wrapped around the wrist of the first

child to reach for scattered candy without his permission. Gradually "Belsnickeling" became the custom of going from door to door collecting food and money for the poor and survived well into the present century.

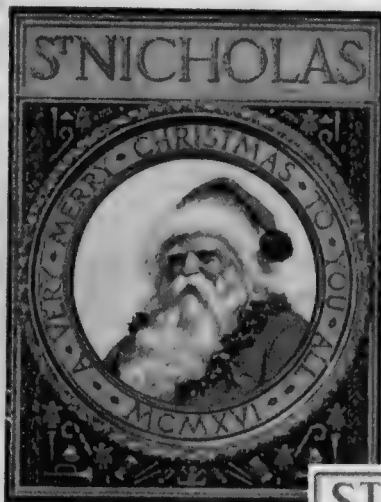
Jon Kankus is similar to Belsnickeling in theme and location.

Children in old Czechoslovakia believed Svaty Mikulas was let down from heaven on a golden cord by an angel. When he arrived on Christmas, children rushed to the table to say their prayers. If they did well, Svaty Mikulas told the angel to give the children presents.

Santa USA

Once the Dutch brought Saint Nicholas to America, he was gradually transformed from an austere bishop to a jolly old elf. First Washington Irving described the saint as a plump and jolly old Dutchman in his comic History of New York. It provided the first literary description of Saint Nicholas to appear in America. It poked fun at the Dutch founders of New York and contained numerous references to the Dutch patron saint. In later editions of his work, Irving gave this account of Saint Nicholas bringing gifts:

"and lo, the good St. Nicholas came riding over the tops of the trees, in that self-same wagon wherein he brings his yearly presents to children....And he lit his pipe by the fire and sat himself down and smoked....And when St. Nicholas had smoked his pipe, he twisted it in



Santa cont'd.. pg. 38...

Nash Gives Santa A New Look

... from pg. 37

his hatband, and laying his finger beside his nose, gave the astonished VanKortlandt a very significant look; then mounting his wagon, he returned over the treetops and disappeared."

Irving's book was a best seller of the day and after its publication in 1809, the Saint Nicholas legend traveled fast. At the first anniversary for it, John Pintard and his friends at the New York Historical Society passed out a broadside he'd commissioned with his own money. It included a poem, "Sancte Claus Goed Heyligman!" ("Santa Claus, Good Holy Man!"). It was a wood engraving by Alexander Anderson and the first known picture of the saint to be made in America.

In 1822 Saint Nicholas' American transformation was given a more definitive description by a professor named Doctor Clement Clarke Moore. Moore, the father of several children, presented his family with a Christmas first: the famous poem, A Visit From Saint Nicholas, first published in 1823. The poem quickly became popular around the United States. Unlike the European Saint Nicholas who was feared by naughty children, Clement Moore inadvertently Americanized the Old World Saint Nicholas, turning him into "jolly Saint Nick, a plump, happy-go-lucky elf with a sleigh full of toys and eight flying reindeer.

Through the years, many publishers have offered Moore's poem as an illustrated book for children. The first one was published in 1848 by Henry M. Onderdonk, a New York printer and bookseller, and a friend of Clement Moore. C. Boyd did eight wood engravings depicting sleeping children, stockings hanging, the Christmas elf driving his miniature team through streets and over rooftops of a quaint old-fashioned Dutch New York, and other familiar scenes to every illustrated edition since. These were put together in an eight-page pamphlet prepared as "a present for good little boys and girls." Only two known copies of that paperback publication have survived.

In 1860 Thomas Nast immortalized Santa Claus with an illustration for Harper's Weekly. The Gregory Company of New York contacted him with an offer to do the illustrations for a book of Christmas poems, including Clement Moore's. Acquiring a copy, Nast read it repeatedly, making mental sketches of the character. He wanted a warm, jolly old elf. The first Santa Claus appeared as a small part of a large illustration titled "A Christmas Furlough" in the December 26, 1863 issue and each Christmas following, Nast set aside his regular news and political coverage to a Santa Claus drawing. He provided twenty-three years of Santa Claus until the paper changed from a leading newsweekly into a magazine for late nineteenth-century homemakers.

Saint Nicholas' attire has gone through as many changes as he has. In New York City in 1865, at midnight on Christmas night, it was reported that Saint Nick appeared, at ball given in his honor, in "buckskin boots of large proportions; his pants were of a fawn color, with a blue stripe. A vest of scarlet, with large brass buttons, encircled a truly aldermanic paunch. A coat of dark brown, over which was thrown an ample cloak of scarlet and gold completed his attire. He was laden with toys - they hung from his arms, round his neck, his waist, and his back was heavily freighted. Round the room he tripped good humoredly, chuckling to himself as he distributed his stock and trade to all. The figure seemed to have elicited

from Robert Walter Weir's painting and drawing at the Military Academy of West Point.

Clement Moore had clad him in fur, common dress for 18th century gentlemen. In 1884, when Santa made his entrance at the Five Points Mission School, eight hundred wide eyed children saw him "wrapped in a great coat of Siberian wolf skins, over which his long beard hung down to his knees!"

But Santa Claus was often shown dressed in green clothes, or blue or black. When one Clement Moore's daughters did a calligraphy of version of her father's famous poem as a Christmas gift to her husband, in spite of her father's words, she dressed Saint Nicholas in a long green coat.

The Evolution of Modern Day Santa

It was in an 1870 edition of A Visit From Saint Nicholas that Saint Nicholas wore a red cloth coat. Thomas Nast has depicted him in a reddish brown outfit, trimmed in white ermine, in 1866. This illustration appeared in George P. Walker's verse story Santa Claus And His Works was probably a major contributor to the idea that Santa wore red. Walker's story also contributed the legend of Santa Claus that he lives in the North Pole.

In the early twentieth century, red Santa Claus suits became popular and were sold by department stores and mail-order houses such as Sears and Roebuck.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, stores began referring to themselves as "Santa Claus headquarters." One of the first was J.W. Parkinson's in Philadelphia in 1841. The owner, Mr.

Parkinson, had a real "Criscringle" come down a chimney above the door of his store right before the eyes of the children present. It was a great success and in 1846, Mr. Parkinson was advertising his store as "Kris Kringle's Headquarters."

It took forty years for another store to catch on and expand the idea. The Boston Store in Brockton, Massachusetts, became the father of department Santas when it hired Edgar, a Scottish immigrant, who tall, roly-poly, with a white beard, a warm voice and a hearty laugh, to be Santa Claus. To top it off, he loved children. In 1890 he darned a Santa Claus to wear during after school hours. But his fame spread so rapidly that within a few days long lines had formed outside the store and more parents and children arrived by train as far away as Providence, Rhode Island. Before the turn of the century, department stores across America had added Santa Claus and even sat him on a throne. Children sat on his knee and whispered their deepest secrets into his ears.

Also in the latter part of the eighteen hundreds, children wrote letters to Santa Claus. By the 1890s post offices were overrun with letters for Santa each December. There was great diversity in the correct spelling of his and where he lived - South or North Pole - as well as what to do with the letters. Mail clerks gravely stamped them with a certification that the addressee could not be found and forwarded them to the dead letter office in Washington.

Santa cont'd.... pg. 42...

Thomas Nast's Santa Claus



Oh Christmas Tree

Dancing Along the White Trail with Marci Mandel

"Christmas wouldn't be Christmas unless..."

If my husband had to finish that sentence it would be: *Christmas wouldn't be Christmas unless we had a Christmas tree.* So on December 9th, off we snow-shoed into the bush to find a beauty. It was another grey day and the crust on the snow made the trekking slow, but we had a song in our hearts and on our lips and were excited about our prospects.

Alan led me in one direction where he thought there was a stand, then I led him in another where I was hopeful of finding something perfect, but in the end all we could see were scraggly *Charlie Brown* trees. He'd rather have nothing at all than one of those, so we looped back home.

The next morning, he just wasn't happy so asked if I would mind going to town with him to buy one. This normally sounds like such a small request, and in fact, normally he could have gone on his own. We, on the other hand, living 2 km past where the road ends, weren't used to normal, and with Achilles tendonitis in my right foot, a return trip to town was an effort for me. But with the chance to bring joy to my beloved, I strapped the snowshoes and a smile back on and hiked out the roller coaster trail to the car with him.

After first taking care of some errands and stopping for a slice, we went shopping for the tree. Most were perfect for what we normally looked for, but with the kids not visiting and the early snowfall, this year wasn't normal either. After moving some of the big boys around, we found the ideal spruce in the very back against the wall. Not only was this tree symmetrical and sized to fit in our vehicle it was also possible to carry.

Back to the trail, on with the snowshoes, and off we went back home. Alan dragged the tree the first 500 metres over the frozen lake, and then the fun began. As an analyzer, I love to figure things out, so with Alan hanging on to the heavier trunk, I tried putting a rope around the top, but that was just too awkward. Then I had an image of two hunters walking, and between them was a dead animal hanging from a pole. So, I went off trail as soon as I found a long, sturdy, dead branch and convinced Alan we should try it. He was sceptical at first but then conceded it did help. Forty-five minutes later, and after taking a ceremonial picture of our prize, we had the tree standing up outside and relaxing into shape.

As darkness descended, Alan brought it in and started putting the lights on: a sacred, age-old tradition of his. Then with egg nog in hand, I finished it off with tinsel, candy canes and red bows.

I must admit, the whole atmosphere of our house had been transformed by the glorious presence of that glittering tree. Even though there were no gifts underneath, it had a majesty about it akin to all things nurtured and cherished. It was truly uplifting.

The Highlands Communicator



As I stood there admiring our creation, I felt refreshed! It was like something inside of me had been aroused from hibernation, and I realized what I loved about a Christmas tree was how *sensuous* it was. There was the prickliness of its needles, the clean spruce fragrance, the lights sparkling on the tinsel, the peppermint candy canes ripe for the picking, the feelings of belonging and continuity, and the remembered sounds of music and laughter.

Perhaps this was why Christmastime was so exhilarating for many; like the tree, our senses were lit up and life took on a whole new, vibrant dimension. It's almost as if by exciting and uniting all the senses, the feelings of kindness and charity were activated. What a blissful way to live...all

year long.

Which reminds me, if you were to ask me to finish that first sentence, it would be: *Christmas wouldn't be Christmas unless I wished that the joy of the season carried through and became the normal way of being all year long.*

May all our dreams come true.

Happy Holidays everyone!



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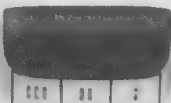
- EverCharge™ Battery Backup system opens and closes garage door even when the power is out
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Christmas Games

Here are a few games you can play while the family is all home for the holidays...

Can you guess the song?

This game is good to play right after dessert has been served, i.e. when everybody is still seated at the table. A person starts by choosing a word from a random Christmas song. It is now the task of the other participants to sing a Christmas song which contains the word and. Thereby, guess the song. If nobody can guess the song, you say "I challenge you" and now the challenger must sing the song (to confirm that the word is actually included in the lyrics of the Christmas song). It is not as easy as one might think, and it's definitely a lot of fun.



*A time to love.
A time to share.
A time for peace.
A time to care.*

May Christmas fill your family
with the glory of the season

**May you all experience the
true spirit of Christmas this year!
Best wishes for the New Year.**



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Santa Hat Game

For festive gatherings with Santa hats. You need everyone to be wearing a hat, so either use the ever popular Santa hats, or otherwise give everyone a normal party hat. The game is based on observation. the objective is NOT to be the last person left with a hat on. At the start announce the simple objective, the only rule is that no one can take their hat off until you have. Let another game or conversation take place, and as time goes by, people will take their attention off you, and even forget the game is happening. Eventually remove your hat and watch as people cotton on. Gradually the hats will come off, amidst sniggers and smirks. Some unsuspecting person (who's probably busy boring everyone with a hopeless story) will be last to notice, and much to every ones' mirth, this person is the loser. Serve up an appropriate forfeit, get the hats back on and give the loser the chance to start the next game.

Sing the Christmas carol

Each participant receives a piece of paper and a pencil. All participants write 4 of their favorite Christmas songs on a piece of paper. (Skip Jingle Bells, otherwise everybody will choose that one). When the songs have been written down, each song is assigned a random number from 1-20. When the competition starts, the organizer shouts out a number from one to twenty. If one of your four numbers is called, you have to sing the corresponding song. The first participant who gets to sing all his four songs is the winner. The competition is a lot of fun, because everybody will soon be singing all at once.

Verses Versus Verses

What fun this game will be when you have assembled a group that loves to sing?

Materials needed: people who love to sing, a collection of Christmas music and one or more musical instruments (optional)

The object is to discover who can out sing whom correctly in an evening of carolling. It's a fairly non-competitive project until you reach second and third choruses. Begin by assembling the group in a room. Appoint a choirmaster who will hold onto the written verses. Each carrel begins with everyone singing, but people have to stop if they forget the verses or melody as the song continues. You'll be surprised to discover who out lasts whom.



Holiday Greetings

We're happy to have this opportunity
to express our gratitude and offer
our very best wishes to all of you at
this joyous time of the year.

Thank you!

*Holly & John
McDonald*

*Lakeriew
Motel & Dining* 457-1027



Pass The Present:

Here is a story you can use for a unique present exchange. You sit everyone in a circle (or a few circles if you are in a large group) and pass the presents whenever a direction is given. It's really a lot of fun and causes great confusion!

The story: say out loud and enjoy:

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Tommy WRIGHT. He lived with his mother, Mrs. WRIGHT and his father Dr. WRIGHT and his sister Sara WRIGHT.

He had four shiny quarters LEFT from some birthday money that Grandma WRIGHT had sent him besides the \$8.12 LEFT in his piggy bank. Now it was time to buy the RIGHT present for each member of the WRIGHT family. So one morning he hopped RIGHT out of bed, RIGHT into his slippers that were RIGHT next to his bed and quietly LEFT home. He went carefully ACROSS the street to the big store on the LEFT side of Main Street. The store was decorated with lights and Christmas ornaments.

Tommy WRIGHT thought and thought about Christmas presents and he looked at all the things for sale. "Let's see," said Tommy, "I know, I'll get Mother WRIGHT some warm gloves. Here is the RIGHT one but where is the LEFT one? Oh! Here it is, RIGHT under the RIGHT one. I sure hope they are the RIGHT color. They cost \$3.06 so I have \$6.06 LEFT to spend. Not for Daddy WRIGHT. Would he like a truck or maybe a ball or a LEFT handed catcher's mitt? I know, I'll get him a football so we can play catch RIGHT in your own back yard when he comes home from work. Let's see, I had \$6.06 LEFT and the football is \$5.06 so now I have \$1.00 LEFT for Sara's present. Here is what she wants. A pretty new purse and I think I have just enough money LEFT to buy it. Tommy WRIGHT clutched his presents happily and went running RIGHT up to the lady at the counter and gave her all the money his RIGHT pocket.

"Is that RIGHT?", he asked as he gave her his money. "It will be \$1.05 with tax," she said," she said. "Oh no," said Tommy WRIGHT. "I forgot about tax." Tommy WRIGHT started crying. Tears streaked RIGHT and LEFT down his little face. RIGHT then the door bursts open and in came Santa Claus who had LEFT the North Pole and had come RIGHT to Tommy WRIGHT's town to take orders from children for Christmas. "Ho, Ho, Ho," said Santa. "We can't have Santa's helpers sad like this. Let's see now, I bet I have five pennies RIGHT here in my LEFT pocket. Santa Claus checked his LEFT pocket and found nothing. "Oh, no," said Santa. "I must have put them into my RIGHT pocket instead of my LEFT. Here they are RIGHT here in my RIGHT pocket, Tommy. Ho! Ho!

Ho! and a Merry Christmas to all the WRIGHT's from Santa Claus and his helpers."

Tommy WRIGHT LEFT the story, ran back ACROSS the street and all the way home to tell his sister Sara WRIGHT that he had seen and talked to Santa. He was so happy that he wrapped his presents RIGHT away and LEFT them under the Christmas tree. Mr. and Mrs. WRIGHT and Sara WRIGHT were thrilled with their presents. Tommy WRIGHT felt really happy even though he had no money LEFT. Christmas morning for the WRIGHT family was joyful and Christmas LEFT nothing to want.

I hope your Christmas will be wonderful and full of the Love we all feel for one another. Merry Christmas. Santa said as he LEFT.

Why is there a big log in the fireplace?

According to the "Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins," by William and Mary Morris: "Yuletide" for "Christmastime" is a term derived from the **yule log**, which in olden days was a huge log used as the foundation of the holiday fires. Bringing the yule log in was, as recently as the 19th century, as much a part of the pre-Christmas festivities as putting up an evergreen tree today. "Yule" can be traced back to the Middle English "Yollen" (cry aloud) and is thought to date from early Anglo-Saxon revels in celebration of the discovery (after the winter solstice) that nights were becoming shorter.



Merry Christmas

May the spirit of the Christ Child fill your heart
and bring you joy

Donald J. Lange (LL.B., Ph.D (Cantab))
Barrister & Solicitor

Here's hoping your
holiday is filled with fun
and excitement.

from the gang at
 **Brooklin**
CONCRETE INC
Haliburton



Fruitcake...

Civilized society stands divided into two distinct camps: Those who adore fruitcake, and those who detest it.

On only one issue do the two sides agree — they're both charmed by the Ultimate Fruitcake Recipe

Fruitcake has been a part of festive celebrations for a very long time. It's been popular in Europe since Roman times, when cooks mixed raisins, pine nuts and pomegranate seeds into barley mash. In the Middle Ages, honey, dried fruits and spices were added to bread dough for special occasions. At one time, fruitcake was considered semi-sacred, with laws in place in Europe until the end of the 18th century that restricted its making to celebrations such as Christmas, Easter, weddings, and the like.

It's impossible to age a fruitcake too long, say those in the know. If stored in an airtight container and basted occasionally with liquor, it'll keep indefinitely.

The Evolution of Santa cont'd...

... from pg. 38

But children had faith in the Postal Service and knew Santa would get their letters. They came from children from all walks of life. One Christmas Eve, eight-year-old Edsel Ford, son of Henry and Clara Ford, and the future president of the Ford Motor Company, penned his letter in Detroit, Michigan:

Dear Santa Claus:

I Havent Had Any Christmas Tree in 4 Years And I Have Broken My Trimmings And I Want A Pair of Roller Skates And A Book, I Cant Think Of Any Thing More. I Want You To Think O

Something More.

Good By. Edsel Ford

Though no mention was made of her, Santa Claus' wife made her debut in 1899 in Santa Claus on a Sleigh Ride, one of a set of thirty-two books by Katharine Lee Bates, composer of "America the Beautiful. In 1908, another story encouraged children to start leaving a little food for Santa Claus because he would be tired after his hard work. Carrots and other treats were later added for his reindeer. Of course, Santa always left a note thanking the children for their kindness. A 1910 advertisement for Ivory Soap showed a child sitting in front of the fireplace with a bowl of water, a towel and a bar of Ivory soap so that Santa could wash up after coming down the chimney. Following the ad to the letter, soiled wash clothes and dirty water was often found on Christmas morning.



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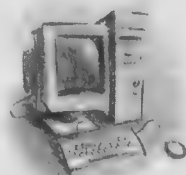


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Beautifully treed lot with driveway and building site partially cleared. Over 2 Acres with 300+ feet of frontage on County Maintained road. Public boat launch, beach just minutes away. Ready to build and value-priced. Perfect for year round home or private cottage. Call the owner at 705.754.3720 or 705.854.0406

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Haliburton Campus Part Time Studies: Winter/Spring 2008



Computer Training

Access - Part I COMP249
Tues, Mar. 4/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Access - Part II COMP250
Tues, Mar. 11/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Access - Part III COMP251
Tues, Mar 18/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Adobe PhotoShop COMP155
Sat, Apr. 12/08 9:00am - 3:00pm
Fee: \$ 68.78

Adobe Photoshop - Advanced COMP274
Sat, Apr. 26/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Browsing the Internet COMP172
Fri, Feb. 8/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

E-mail Workshop COMP160
Fri, Jan 25/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Excel - Part I COMP254
Mon, Feb. 4/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Excel - Part II COMP255
Mon, Feb. 11/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Excel - Part III COMP256
Mon, Feb. 18/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

File Management COMP144
Fri, Feb. 22/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Flash MX COMP367
Fri, May 30/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Intro to Computers - Part I COMP169
Section: 52 Sat, Jan. 19/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Section: 53 Tues, Apr. 1/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Intro to Computers - Part II COMP170
Section: 52 Sat, Feb. 2/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Section: 53 Tues, Apr. 15/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Intro to Computers - Part III COMP171
Section: 52 Sat, Feb. 16/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Section: 53 Tues, Apr. 29/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Intro to Windows Movie Maker COMP366
Tues, Feb. 5/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Macromedia Fireworks COMP365
Fri, Jun. 13/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
\$ 39.48

Microsoft Word COMP174
Sat, Mar. 1/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Microsoft Word - Part II COMP214
Sat, Mar. 15/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Microsoft Word - Part III COMP336
Sat, Mar 29/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Power Point - Part I COMP252
Tues, Apr. 8/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
\$ 39.48

Power Point - Part II COMP253
Tues, Apr. 22/08 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Web Design I COMP337
Fri, Apr 4/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Web Design II COMP338
Fri, Apr. 18/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Web Design III COMP339
Fri, May 2/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Web Design IV COMP344
Fri, May 16/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Windows XP I: Routine Maintenance COMP361
Fri, Jan. 25/08 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Windows XP II: Basic Customization COMP362
Fri, Feb. 8/08 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

Windows XP III: Advanced Customization COMP363
Fri, Feb 22/08 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fee: \$ 39.48

CPR & First Aid Training

CPR Basic Rescuer (Level C) HLTH57
Fri, Apr. 11/08 6:00pm - 10:00pm
Sat, Apr. 12/08 9:00am - 3:00pm
Fee: \$ 61.60

CPR Basic Rescuer (Level C) Recertification HLTH80
Fri, Apr. 11/08 6:00pm - 10:00pm
Sat, Apr. 12/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 63.85

Emergency Medical Response HLTH79
Fri, Apr. 11/08 6:00pm - 10:00pm
Sat, Apr. 12/08 9:00am - 6:00pm
Sun, Apr. 13/08 9:00am - 6:00pm
Fee: \$ 118.36

First Aid - Standard HLTH81
Fri, Apr. 11/08 6:00pm - 10:00pm
Sat, Apr. 12/08 9:00am - 6:00pm
Sun, Apr. 13/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 102.56

First Aid - Standard Recertification HLTH82
Fri, April 11/08 6:00pm - 10:00pm
Sat, April 12/08 9:00am - 3:00pm
Fee: \$ 61.60

Wilderness Advanced First Aid HLTH76
Mon - Thurs, April 21- 24/08 8:00am - 6:00pm
Fee: \$ 416.24

WHMIS HLTH52
Tues, Mar. 25/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 66.00

Language

Spanish - Level II LANG44
Wed, Jan. 9/08 - Mar. 12/08 6:30pm - 9:00pm
Fee: \$ 132.25

Spanish - Level IV LANG46
Tues, Jan. 8/08 - Mar. 11/08 6:30pm - 9:00pm
Fee: \$ 132.25

Dance

Ballroom Dancing I ARTS817
Wed, Jan 23/08 - Mar. 26/08 8:30pm-9:30pm
Fee \$97.30

Ballroom Dancing II ARTS832
Wed, Jan 23/08 - Mar. 26/08 7:15pm-8:15pm
FEE \$97.30

Ballroom Dancing III ARTS833
Wed, Jan 23/08 - Mar. 26/08 6:00pm-7:00pm
Fee \$97.30

Solo Salsa Dancing II ARTS836
Wed, Jan 23/08 - Mar. 26/08 8:30pm-9:30pm
Fee \$97.30

General Interest

B.O.A.T. RECR30
(Boat Operators Accredited Training)
Sat, Apr. 19/08 8:30am - 6:30pm
Fee: \$ 66.60

Chainsaw Operator MECH82
Sat, Jun. 14/08 8:00am - 5:00pm
Sat, Jun. 21/08 8:00am - 5:00pm
Sun, Jun. 22/08 8:00am - 5:00pm
Fee: \$ 123.84

Map, Compass & Basic GPS CART5
Sat, Mar. 29/08 9:00am - 5:00pm
Fee: \$ 99.78

Winter Camp & Survival Skills CART9
Sat. Feb. 9/08 9:00am - 5:00pm
Fee \$99.78

Basic Blackjack RECR96
Wed, Apr. 9/08 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Fee: \$ 29.80

Dry Stone Wall Construction ARTS988
Mon - Fri, May 12 - 16/08 9:00am - 4:30pm
Fee: \$ 549.18

Effective Public Speaking COMM124
Wed, Feb. 6/08 - Mar. 5/08 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Fee: \$ 95.00

Photography Workshop ARTS669
Sat, Mar. 15/08 9:00am - 4:00pm
Fee: \$ 49.79

Smart Serve HOSP19
Call for an appointment
Fee: \$ 62.00

Timber Framing - Intro to Design ARTS383
Sat, Apr. 5/08 9:00am - 4:30pm
Sun, Apr. 6/08 9:00am - 12:00pm
Fee: \$ 90.41

Timber Framing ARTS298
Mon - Sat, April 7/08 - 12/08 9:00am - 4:30pm
Fee: \$ 287.28

Glassblowing ARTS101
Sec. 51 - Sat Jan 26-Feb 23/08 9:00am-4:30pm
Sec. 52 - Sat Mar 8-Apr 12/08 9:00am-4:30pm
Total \$454.70

Part 8: On-site Sewage Systems Installer
Mon Mar. 3 to Fri. Mar 7/08 9:00am-4:30pm
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Bus: (705) 489-1235



It's a special time
of year
A family time and
one to share
With those we
hold most dear
Christmas

brings us closer
And like this wish it brings
Some very precious memories
And life's most happy things

Merry Christmas from
Gloria, Cindy and Avery



Kennisis Lk - Paddy's Bay - \$229,000

Kennisis Lk(Paddy's Bay) 175 ft. frontage, beautiful sand beach, natural shore line, nature lovers retreat. 3.2 acres, level lot, driveway on property. Very easy to build on

Gloria Carnochan or Cindy Muenzel *



Industrial Park Haliburton - \$99,500

Looking to start your own business? Check out this acre lot property in Industrial Park Over 2200 sq. ft. building with 3 phase hydro! Building has dirt floor and is partially open so you can do with it as you please. Serviced municipal road to property.

Gloria Carnochan or Cindy Muenzel *



Two Lots - Take Your Pick or Buy Both...

Well treed 2.75 acre building lot in area of new homes and cottages. Near public access to Basshaunt Lake. Close to Sir Sams ski hill. Adjacent 3 acre lot also for sale. Both Lots are only \$24,900.00 each - buy one or buy both !!

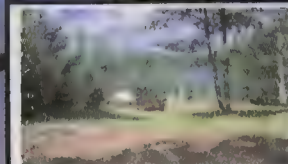
Gloria Carnochan or Cindy Muenzel *



Kushog Lake - \$370,000

One of the best sand beaches on the lake Clean and tidy 3 bedroom cottage with open concept living area Beautiful stone fireplace and sliding door to large deck Easy year round access off municipal road

Tom Gardner *



Bob Lake - \$159,000

Private waterfront lot. Spectacular view of the main part of the lake Driveway in with building site cleared and hydro service on pole. Lot has 140 feet of west facing frontage with over 7 acres to secure privacy Stairs from upper deck down to deck at water's edge. Bob Lake is over 200' deep with great fishing

Tom Gardner *



Sorry it's sold !! \$99,900 Call me to view others!!

Charming 2 bedroom starter/retirement home or use as a getaway! Western exposure, view of Boshkung Lake and close to snowmobile, ski, hiking, ATV and water trails

Lindsay Elder **



Grass Lake - 5 Lake Chain - \$419,000

"Imagine yourself by the roaring fire after a day skiing at Sir Sam's or snowmobiling, or cross-country skiing or snow shoeing - all of your winter passions can be satisfied here and yet you're still within walking distance to all of Haliburton's amenities"

Lindsay Elder **



Minden - Great View of Downtown \$159,000

In town home with a view of Beautiful downtown Minden! 3 large bedrooms, main floor laundry Private setting

David Lee *



Minden - In Town - \$169,500

Spacious 2 story in town home, recently renovated, easy walk to downtown

David Lee *



East Moore Lake - \$399,900

Prime gentle sloping well treed private lot with 203 feet frontage on Moore Lake chain South exposure with rare combination of sand beach and rock point. Two self contained fully serviced 3 bedroom cottages on property ideal for guest or rental income

Chris James *



Canning Lake - \$259,900

GREAT STARTER!! Charming three bedroom cottage at the mouth of a sheltered bay on prestigious Canning Lake (Slake chain). Enjoy sunsets from the deck, swim at the sand beach, go water skiing or fish in one of the many bays & inlets, 3 season retreat.

Chris James *



Coffee Shop/Internet Cafe - \$49,900

RACHEL'S BAKERY Prime Haliburton Main Street location Stunning open concept space with vaulted beamed ceiling - outdoor patio use available - ample parking - wheelchair accessible - located in the restored 'Village Barn' shop area Price includes turn key set-up with equipment over \$50,000 Rachel's Bakery name to be retained by current owner - will continue to supply baked goods

Anthony van Lieshout ***



Haliburton Laundromat - \$64,900

Long time established Haliburton Laundromat - only one in village, on town sewers, convenient in-town location with parking. Neat and clean operation, all equipment as viewed and business. Numerous recent upgrades. 'Turn Key' set-up with limited time involvement, existing owner will help train. Ideal opportunity. Lease available

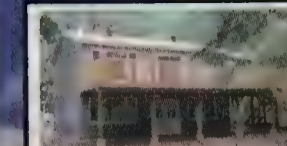
Anthony van Lieshout ***



Grace River - \$249,900

Private double waterfront lot with 205 ft fringe on Grace River. Boating access to Grace & Dark lakes Circular driveway, and ample parking 1500 sq ft modern, open concept home plus partially finished w/o basement Detached double heated/insulated garage and lakeside boathouse/bunkie, decking & dock. Features modern eat-in kitchen with appliances, mtn fir office, master bedrm with ensuite, propane fireplace, jacuzzi.

Anthony van Lieshout ***



Drag Lake - \$424,900

Totally renovated 1570 sq. ft. open concept 4 bdrm, 2 bath, home/cottage on level lot on Drag Lake Private gated driveway, clean sand shore Extensive lakeside decking, maple hardwood floors, pine trim and doors throughout, pine kitchen, dining room walkout to dock, living room wood armoire on stone hearth and pine 4-season sunroom. Finished recreation & laundry rooms, high efficiency propane furnace, drilled well and eco-flow septic.

Marcia Prenger *



Prime Commercial Lot - \$129,000

...in Minden's downtown, with the scenic Gull River (leads to Gull Lake), just across the street. Reopen the Beaver Theatre or convert the building/lot to your own requirements. Own a piece of Minden's heritage.

Patti & Hal Johnson **



One of a Kind Property - \$649,900

Have you ever wanted your own private retreat? Picture this...2000' of SW lake frontage bounded by rivers on both sides with 135 acres of mixed forest. All this & a sand beach! To get you started there is a huge garage with full loft above, covered picnic area & ample storage buildings.

Patti & Hal Johnson **

Wishing You All

Good Health
Happyness and
Prosperity

for the Holiday Season
and
throughout the New Year

Luba Cargill and family

Thank you Haliburton

Thank you to all my clients, customers, business associates, friends and neighbours for your business, referrals and the opportunity to help with your real estate needs for 2 1/2 years. Haliburton is indeed a very special place with very special people.

Luba Cargill



Scotch Line Rd. - \$129,000

Great starter home only minutes from town of Minden. Constructed from century old logs, two bedrooms, new furnace & roof in 2002. Level lot, year round paved municipal road. High speed wireless internet to be assumed by buyer. Seller is related to Registered Real Estate Sales Person.

Ed Gibbons *



Carnarvon - \$189,000

1450 sq. ft. 4 bedroom bungalow with renovated kitchen, new steel roof and solarium, close to public boat launch on Halls & Hawk Lakes. Deeded access to Kennis River off Big Hawk Lake Road. Trust Schedule in LBO must accompany all offers.

Ed Gibbons *



Gull Lake - \$1,090,000 - Just Listed

Privacy Plus. Excellent 3 bedroom 4 season Panabode cottage with cathedral ceiling, hardwood floors, natural stone fireplace, sauna, hot tub, and much more on a natural rugged setting with 377 ft frontage on Gull Lake. Clean, deep, smooth shoreline, panoramic view. Call Al Mayo for appt. to view.

Al Mayo *



Marigold Lake - \$119,500

PRIVACY PLUS on this quiet lake with 167 feet frontage. Basic cottage with 2 bedrooms finished in drywall, new kitchen, new 3 piece bath. Priced to sell. Enjoy this great get-away.

Al Mayo *



Value Prices - \$50,000

2 bedroom home. Located in adult community only 5 minutes from Minden. Land lease includes garbage pick-up and snow removal. Well kept home ready to move in and enjoy, includes furniture. Water charge of \$16.00/month.

Vince Jarvis *



Halls Lake - \$515,000

3+1 BR waterfront home/cottage. Open concept living. Huge master BR, main floor laundry, walk-out basement. Also has 2 BR bunkie for guests.

Vince Jarvis *



12 Mile Lake - \$450,000

Year round winterized cottage on Twelve Mile Lake. Gentle sloping lot with fantastic view. Features large family room with airtight, heated water line, air conditioning, central vac, laundry room, mudroom & storage sheds.

Barry Warren *



Peach Lake - \$469,900

Gorgeous 3 BR + den home/cottage on 2 acres w/ 300' shoreline on Peach Lk. Cedar walls to a vaulted ceiling, breathtaking sunset view of lake enhances the L.R. Propane and wood fireplaces with main floor laundry Bunkie & metal storage shed.

Barry Warren *



Halls Lake - \$429,900

Prime direct waterfront estate/development lot with approx 1000 ft of frontage on prestigious Halls Lake. Easy access off Hwy #35 - 2 older cottages and derelict boathouse on the site. Expansive view - Clean shoreline - A Rare Opportunity!!

Anthony vanLieshout ***



Loon Lake - \$359,900

Royal Home on a very private 30-acre lot with 401 ft frontage on Loon Lake access across road. Double attached insulated garage & large double detached garage. Manicured & landscaped setting with in ground sprinklers. Also mixed bush with trails. 200 amp service with a generator back up & H.R.V. filter system. 2 bedroom bunkie and Quonset hut.

Chris & Michelle Smolarz *



Percy Lake - \$729,900

A rare find one of a kind large very private level lot 1 1/2 acre point lot and cottage with 810' frontage on prestigious Percy Lake. Multiple exposure with a combination of deep rocky shoreline and sandy frontage 3 bdrm open concept 1200 sq ft cottage with a unique fireplace and cedar siding. Towering mature trees on this natural lot also consisting of a bunkie, dry boathouse and your own boat launch.

Chris & Michelle Smolarz *



Beech Lake - \$719,900

Luxury spacious home - features including hardwood floor, high cathedral pine ceilings w/ wooden beams, impressive stone fireplace. Well-manicured, level lot golden sand beach w/ southern exposure, and big lake view. Jimmy Connors tennis court.

Chris & Michelle Smolarz *

Holiday Greetings



Everyone at Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton wishes everyone a wonderful holiday season.

* Sales Representative

** Broker

*** Broker of Record

It's the Law

It's the Law

At one time in Minnesota, if a man hugged or kissed a young woman in front of her parents, it was considered a binding proposal of marriage!

In Orangeville, Ontario, it is against the law for a farmer, while he is around cattle, to wear socks with holes in the toes!

It was once illegal in Denver, Colorado, for acrobats to perform on the sidewalks any acrobatics that would frighten the horses!

A law in Green Bay, Wisconsin, states that owners of cars that drip oil on public roads be fined a dollar per drip!

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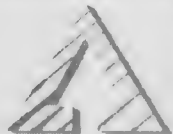
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Crazy But True Law Suits

Wanita "Renea" Young of Durango, Colo. Two neighborhood teens baked cookies for their neighbors as an anonymous gesture of good will, but Young got scared when she heard them on her front porch. They apologized, in writing, but Young sued them anyway for causing her distress, demanding \$3,000. When she won(!) \$900, she crowed about it in the newspaper and on national TV. Now, she's shocked (shocked!) that everyone in town hates her for her spite, and is afraid she may have to move. But hey: she won.

Haliburton County Chamber Of Commerce New 2008 Board:

There are some new faces on the board this year for the Haliburton County Chamber of Commerce.

The Annual General Meeting was held recently and the 2008 board was elected. Some are returning faces: Nick Lawrence - Van Houtte Coffee Services - is returning for one more year. He will be moving into the position of Past President. John McDonald - Lakeview Motel - is also returning for one more year, and so is Audrey Beck - ABECK Accounting. Andy Campbell - HCDC - has been re-elected to serve another two years, and Steve Todd - Todd's Independent - has been re-elected to serve another two years.

New faces include: Dale Bull - May Mortgages - has been elected new to serve for two years, Paul Gonyea - Gonyea Eaves and Siding - has been elected to serve for two years, John Acorn - Acorn's Furniture - has been elected to serve for two years, Walter Schroetter - Crowne Gallery Ltd. - has been elected to serve for two years.

Mike Burke - Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours - will stay on as an appointed director from a community organization or group, Mary McKee - Haliburton Home Builders Association - will stay on as an appointed director from a community organization or group.

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Lange on the Law *Donald Lange*

by Donald J. Lange
Barrister & Solicitor

Challenges to a Will

There are several ways to challenge the validity of a will. Two types of challenges are a lack of testamentary capacity, that is, the lack of physical or mental capacity to make a will, and suspicious circumstances in the preparing and executing of a will.

There are many statements in estate jurisprudence as to the requirements for testamentary capacity. The classic statements come from 19th century English law and are sometimes archaic in expression. Let me express it this way. The testator, who is the person making the will, must have a clear understanding and memory to know, on his or her own, and independent of others: (1) of the nature and the extent of the testator's real property, such as a house, and personal property, such as a car; (2) of the people or legal entities, such as a charity, that are going to receive the bequest; and (3) of the testamentary provisions in the will to be executed. The testator must also express an orderly desire or intention as to the disposition of the estate property.

When a will is challenged on the basis of testamentary capacity, the burden of proving testamentary capacity is not on those challenging the will but on the proponents of the will, usually the beneficiaries. When proving testamentary capacity, a beneficiary may look to the evidence of the lawyer who drafted the will and the lawyer's file notes on meetings with the testator. There are two witnesses to a will, usually the lawyer and a staff member, so the evidence of the staff member would also be important. Another source of proving testamentary capacity is the testator's physician. The clinical notes and records of the physician at the time and before the time of executing the will would be relevant. Medical conditions, such as signs of dementia or Alzheimer's disease could undermine testamentary capacity.

An allegation of suspicious circumstances, such as undue influence, apparent coercion, or fraud, is often found in estate litigation when a will is being challenged on the basis of testamentary capacity. This is so because a physical or mental debility in a testator may leave the testator exposed to nefarious activity of another swaying the testator such that the testator does not fully appreciate the effect of what is being done in the will. Thus, if testamentary capacity is proven, suspicious circumstances may be defeated.

In the next column, I will be talking about the latest in road access law.

Donald J. Lange, LL.B., Ph.D. (Cantab.)

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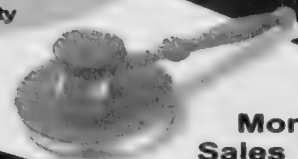
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High and Low Ratio Mortgages

Before I start talking about how your credit score affects your mortgage, I would first like to clarify the difference between high and low ratio mortgages.

A low ratio mortgage for either a refinance or a down payment (dp) for a purchase, is when there is a minimum of 20% equity in the value of the home. For example: the home is worth \$150,000.00 and the down payment (or equity) is \$45,000.00 the mortgage ratio is 70% loan to value (ltv). To calculate the ltv, you take the purchase price/value of the home less the dp/equity) $\$150,000.00 - \$45,000.00$ dp/equity = $\$105,000.00$ then, you take $\$105,000.00$ and divide by the value of the home which is $\$150,000.00 = 70\%$ ltv. The more equity or dp you have, the less effected you are by a lower credit score.

However, today I want to talk about high ratio mortgages as this is what we see most often in the industry. A common dp is 10% or less of the purchase price on principle residences or cottages. Due to government regulations, all high ratio mortgages offered through a lending institution must be insured against default. Whenever a purchase or refinance is processed and it is high ratio (less than 20% dp or equity) the mortgage must be insured for default. While there are several default insurance providers the best recognized is CMHC (Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation). Default insurance is a one time insurance premium charged when the mortgage is activated. This premium, which is usually several thousand dollars, can be added to the mortgage or can be paid upfront.

When dealing with CMHC for example, they will allow 0% dp if a client has a credit score of 680 or higher. If the credit score is between 650 and 679 you would need at least 5%dp but it can be borrowed. If your credit score is less than 650, again 5%dp but it cannot be borrowed. Some or all of the down payment can be given to you as a gift from a family member. Also, while each lender has their own guidelines, the minimum credit score that they will usually look at is 580. On top of the down payment, you will need to prove that you have closing cost of 1.5% of the purchase price for lawyer fees, etc...by way of investments or cash in your accounts.

While there is a market for clients with lower credit scores, the interest rates are higher. Never assume that you will not qualify for a mortgage because your bank has turned you down due to a low credit score or a bankruptcy in your past. As a mortgage broker, I have access to several alternative lenders which views the credit score, income confirmation and self employed situations differently than the banks.

Please note that the above are general examples and each credit plan is unique as each one of us. Please call me to find out your options. I am also hosting a mortgage seminar please call for details. 705-457-0028.

Next issue will be on how much of a mortgage you will qualify for with your income. Don't miss it!!

All the best to you and your family over the Holiday Season.



Susan Lee, CFP
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER
susanlee@xplornet.com
cell: 705-457-0028
www.susanleecfp.com

Ten Advantages of Incorporating a Business:

Following are the advantages to incorporating a business, whether exclusively owned or in affiliation with another. After analysis of these facts it is worth taking into consideration if restructuring is perhaps appropriate for you:

Enduring Existence: A corporation is a separate and 'distinct artificially created judicial entity' that can own property, assume liabilities, enter into agreements and contracts with other people. It can sue and be sued. It exists apart from its shareholders, directors and officers of incorporation. Its continuation is not affected by death or retirement.

Limited liability: Shareholders are not personally liable for debts and additional obligations of a corporation. Liability is restricted to the amount of equity invested by a shareholder.

Global recognition: Incorporated businesses command credibility and respect as a result. Federally incorporated businesses are globally recognized.

Name protection: Once incorporated with a particular name, its copyright disallows others to use its designation. Its identity remains protected within the jurisdiction of businesses. Federally incorporated companies rank as privileged across the country.

Easier access to corporate finances: Through provisions made in Articles of Incorporation, it can empower owners and partners to access the financing opportunities in diverse business structures. Issuance of different classes of shares with various rights is made possible. Corporations can issue debt instruments, for instance, bonds and debentures.

Transfer of Control: Transferring control of a corporation is possible by way of selling and transferring voting shares of a corporation.

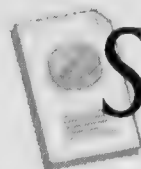
Tax Advantage: Corporations are given tax incentives and advantages that are not available to unincorporated proprietorships or partnerships. The most important tax advantage of incorporating is opportunity [ies] to defer significant parts of taxes payable on income residue left within the corporation. Unincorporated businesses do not qualify for lower tax rates which is less than 20% (federal and provincial combined) in Ontario.

Choice of fiscal year: A corporation may choose any phase of a fiscal year for taxes, unlike others who pay at a federally appointed time of a calendar. An intelligent choice allows for legally acceptable tax deferrals by shareholders, officers and directors.

Dividend distribution: Family members who are shareholders of a corporation can be paid dividends instead of salaries to avoid employer's contribution to CPP and employment insurance. Dividend income is also taxed at lower rates.

Tax planning: Incorporated businesses provide opportunities for income splitting, tax deferral, increasing capital gains exemption, estate planning and retirement planning.

Because Tax laws are complex it is important to consult a professional tax advisor. This statement cannot be undermined.



Statistics
Did you know...

On July 10, 1913, Death Valley had the hottest temperature recorded in the Western Hemisphere when, in the shade, it reached 134o F.

The Haliburton County Development Corporation

If you are even thinking of starting a new business in the new year- you will want to talk to the HCDC

The Canadian economy depends to a large extent on entrepreneurs. Small businesses, initially developed by usually one or two people, are the glue which keeps the country together financially. The more successful of these businesses can develop into huge corporations which employ many people, though for the most part, they remain small, to medium-sized. Cumulatively however, the number of people working for these smaller operations in Canada is significant.

This is no less true in the County of Haliburton where smaller business operations employ a healthy portion of our population. The government of Canada has long realized the value of entrepreneurs, and of small businesses to the communities across Canada, and has set up agencies to help in their development. Many such businesses owe their success to government financial assistance, especially at the start-up stage.

Locally, the government-sponsored agency which helps businesses financially, is called the Haliburton County Development Corporation, better known as HCDC. The HCDC has helped numerous businesses at the start-up stage and beyond, and they have a healthy rate of success. The HCDC is not only about helping small business.

The HCDC mission statement: *The Haliburton County Development Corporation is a community based organization which encourages the development, implementation and sustainability of initiatives that promote community development and job creation while maintaining our quality of life.*

The HCDC Mandate: *Under agreement with the federal government our mandate is to help develop and diversify the local economy through community strategic planning, business counseling and financing.*

A further perusal of their website turns up this important piece of information: *We invite businesses, sole proprietors and not-for-profit organizations in Haliburton County to apply for funding for activities that support local economic development.*

HCDC actually looks for people and organizations to give, or

lend money to. The HCDC offers small business loans up to \$150,000. Of course your activity must fit into the guidelines of supporting local economic development, as mentioned. While there

are many success stories that HCDC has had a hand in, they also realize that there are people out there who, though they might have a good concept, or need money for the continuance of a business, might be put off by the process of seeking financial assistance.

The Personal Touch

Dealing with HCDC is a lot different than dealing with a bank. Like any good business it's the people who make the difference, and the people who work at HCDC are a great bunch, who are there to help you.

The time which was set for interviews for this article was the a late afternoon of the first real storm of the winter, and the meeting could have easily been canceled. But Andy Campbell and several of his staff were there. Evelyn Beebe the Chair of the Executive Committee had also braved the storm and driven quite a distance in order to take part. In addition to Andy, who is the Manager of HCDC, there was Jim Blake a Committee and project co-ordinator, Peggy Munn, the accounts manager, and Patti Tallman, the Office Administrator. Peggy and Patti have been with HCDC for 18 and 10 years respectively, and Jim, who works for

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HCDC Been Helping Business for 20 years

... from pg. 49

HCDC on a part time basis, has been doing so for 5 years.

Jim has the ability to put people at ease, and he started off the conversation on a positive note. "People who come here feel like we're working towards 'yes.' They realize that we're looking at ways to make things work. We try to be that service in the community that not only provides funding, but also ideas, direction and partnership. What a great job-how can we support you? It's great to be able to work for that kind of place."

"It's a thread which goes throughout the programs," says Evelyn. "The Federal Government allows the communities to adapt the programs to fit the needs of the community, so there's great flexibility. Different areas focus on different needs. It's been a wonderful partnership with industry Canada since day one."

"We've been doing this for 20 years," Andy adds, "and more people in our communities are realizing what we do. We have increased our programs. At one time we were strictly a loaning organization, but now we're a true community development organization, and my challenge is to make the community aware of the variety of services that we offer."

Every three years a strategic plan is made by the board which identifies the specific needs of the community. The board is made

up of fifteen community representatives from all areas of the county. There are three committees: The Executive Committee, which oversees budgets for all the committees, and also handles

administrative, staffing, and policy-making; the Investment Committee which looks after loans; and the CED Committee, which looks after Community Economic Development. The CED is the committee which hands out grants to successful applicants. The normal amount of funding approved per project is up to \$5,000 with an average of \$2,500. You should check with the office to find out the deadlines for proposals, and definitely get in touch with either Patti or Jim to go over your proposal with you, before you submit it.

Where CED Support is Available

The CED has identified the following as the Sector Development Objective, or areas where it has determined that assistance is to be concentrated: Arts and Culture, Tourism, Opportunities For Healthy Active Living, The Environment, and Skill Development. These are current areas of priority, but HCDC *will consider funding initiatives which contribute to building and maintaining a strong foundation for the community and/or supports the growth and development of any economic sector that is compatible with sustaining a healthy natural environment.* The programs under which the development objectives are administered include the Local Initiatives Program, Youth Internship Program, Skills Development Fund, and the Business Planning Initiative. There is also another financing stream called the Eastern Ontario Development Program which you may be eligible for. You should read the description accompanying each program to check for eligibility. The information is available through the website or through the office. Guidelines and application forms are available on-line. Please read the guidelines carefully and call the office if you have any questions.

HCDC cont'd.. pg. 51...

Warmest Wishes

for good health & happiness to you & your family, and a Happy Holiday Season.

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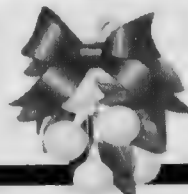
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Season's Greetings

Laurie and her staff would like
to wish you all the Best of
the Holiday Season.



LAURIE SCOTT MPP
Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock

Constituency Office: Tel. (705) 324-6654
14 Lindsay St. N. 1-800-424-2490
Lindsay, ON Fax (705) 324-6938
K9V 1T4
Email: laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
Website: lauriescottmpp.com

HCDC Cont'd...

... from pg. 50

HCDC encourages all applicants to *discuss your proposal with us before you submit your application*. The discussion could be one of the most important meetings you will have in your life, because you will discover that at HCDC, people are mainly interested in how they can help you. If they can't help you right away with financial assistance for your business, for example, they can help in the area of Business Counseling, and this will help you determine just what it is that you need to do, in order to move forward.

What They've Done

Here is some of what HCDC has accomplished locally : Disbursed 951 loans totaling \$32.9 million dollars and influenced 3,222 jobs. Disbursed over \$2.5 million in loans that influence an average of 250 jobs per year. Funded over 162 Community Economic Development Projects totaling \$401,118 dollars. Injected \$1.7 million to 179 initiatives from the Eastern Ontario Development Fund program. Partnered with Haliburton Highlands Secondary School in assisting more than 30 students who registered for the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

What HCDC Can Help You With

Do you need assistance with:

A community economic development project?

In hiring a youth intern?

In looking for skills development and training?

In working on a business or marketing plan?

Or are you thinking about a loan to developing a vacant or under-used industrial or commercial property?

Maybe you need Broadband for your business.

HCDC can help you with any of the above. Even if your project doesn't fit any of these categories give HCDC a call, you won't regret it.

Contact Information

The Haliburton County Development Corporation, is located on the second floor in the Village Court Plaza in Haliburton Village. The address is Box 210, Haliburton, Ontario, Canada, K0M 1S0. Phone: (705) 457-3555 - Fax: (705) 457-3398 - Email: hcde@halhinet.on.ca The web site is to be found at www.haliburtoncdc.ca

Pictured: Jim Blake, Evelyn Bebee, Andy Campbell (all seated) - Patti Tallman, and Peggi Munn (standing)



Happy Holidays to all families from the Ontario Early Years staff.

The Minden and Haliburton OEY Centres will be closed for the Christmas break starting December 20th. They will re-open on January 7 from 9:30 to 1:00.

The Children's Learning Centre will be closed from Dec. 22 to Jan. 1, 2008. We will reopen Jan. 2 to Jan. 4 for regular hours. The School-age program will be at the Day Care not the school for this week. Monday Jan. 7 we will be back to our regular schedules.

Q. What did the Gingerbread Man put on his bed?
A. A cookie sheet!

Blessings of the Season



and a heartfelt Thank You to all our clients for their patronage this past year.

Our office will be closed from Friday, Dec 21st/07 to Wednesday Jan 2nd/08 (Inclusive)

Ray, Marilyn, Laurie Sharon & Glenda

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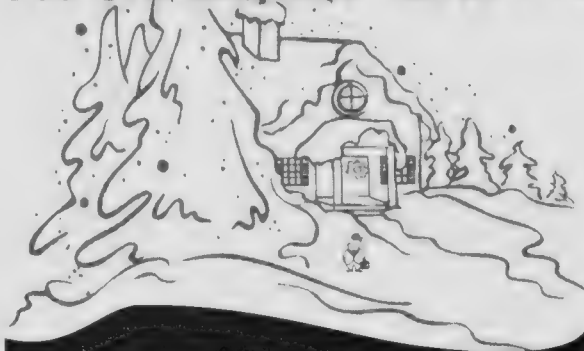
The Actual Cost of the 12 days of Christmas...

2007 Christmas Price Index:

	Traditional			Internet		
	2006	2007	% Change 2007/06	2006	2007	% Change 2007/06
One Partridge in a Pear Tree	\$ 144.99	\$ 164.99	13.8%	\$ 211.66	\$ 224.94	6.3%
Partridge	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	0.0%	76.67	75.00	-2.2%
Pear Tree	\$ 129.99	\$ 149.99	15.4%	134.99	149.94	11.1%
Two Turtle Doves	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	0.0%	130.00	130.00	0.0%
Three French Hen	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	0.0%	195.00	195.00	0.0%
Four Calling Birds	\$ 479.96	\$ 599.96	25.0%	432.00	455.00	5.3%
Five Gold Rings	\$ 325.00	\$ 395.00	21.5%	274.75	329.75	20.0%
Six Geese-a-Laying	\$ 300.00	\$ 360.00	20.0%	660.00	660.00	0.0%
Seven Swans-a-Swimming	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00	0.0%	7,035.00	7,035.00	0.0%
Eight Maids-a-Milking	\$ 41.20	\$ 46.80	13.6%	310.08	310.08	0.0%
Nine Ladies Dancing	\$ 4,759.19	\$ 4,759.19	0.0%	6,885.00	7,106.00	3.2%
Ten Lords-a-Leaping	\$ 4,160.25	\$ 4,285.06	3.0%	10,947.00	11,283.23	3.1%
Eleven Pipers Piping	\$ 2,124.00	\$ 2,213.40	4.2%	1,750.00	1,900.00	8.6%
Twelve Drummers Drumming	\$ 2,301.00	\$ 2,397.85	4.2%	1,500.00	1,620.00	8.0%
Total Christmas Price Index	\$ 18,920.59	\$ 19,507.25	3.1%	\$ 30,330.49	\$ 31,249.00	3.0%
% change						
True cost of Christmas in song	\$ 75,122.03	\$ 78,100.10	4.0%	\$ 125,767.32	\$ 128,886.37	2.5%
% change						
"Core" index, excluding swans	\$ 14,720.59	\$ 15,307.25	4.0%	\$ 23,295.49	\$ 24,214.00	3.9%

Cost of Christmas cont'd...
pg. 53...

At Christmas Time...



may peace fill your home,
may joy fill your heart
and may the spirit
of the season stay with you
throughout the year!

Happy Holidays from all of us

Dan, Kelly, Monika, Maureen, & Kellee
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Tallying the True Cost of Christmas...

"On the first day of Christmas my True Love gave to me a partridge in a pear tree." - Cost: \$144.99 *

investors to turn to gold as a safer place to invest their money."

PNC's Annual Christmas Price Index

What started 23 years ago with a wink and a smile has since grown into one of PNC's most popular and anticipated economic reports: The PNC Christmas Price Index. The annual tongue-in-cheek analysis puts a price tag on Turtle Doves, French Hens, Gold Rings and all the other gifts bought by the True Love in the holiday song, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*.

Interestingly enough, the index tends to follow overall Consumer Price Index trends and has proven to be a fun way to measure consumer spending and trends in the economy.

Last year, rising labor costs led to greater costs for Ladies Dancing, Lords-a-Leaping, Drummers Drumming and Pipers Piping. Costs for Partridges, Turtle Doves and the other birds was flat compared to previous years. The price of Pear Trees, however, had soared.

How will this year's Index compare to last? Will the price of Gold Rings shine? Will Calling Birds call for more?

The following is this year's PNC Annual Christmas Price Index results ...



The price of five gold rings now totals \$395, a 21.5 percent increase over 2006 prices, but still nowhere close to 1989 prices, when the five Gold Rings hit an all-time high of \$750.

Milkmaids Benefit from Minimum Wage Increase

As the only unskilled laborers in the Christmas Price Index, the eight Maids-a-Milking make minimum wage, and have not had a raise since 1997. This year, Congress increased

their wages by 13.6 percent; bringing the cost of eight Maids-a-Milking for one hour of work to \$46.80. The True Love will have to reach deeper into his pockets for the milkmaids in 2008 and 2009, as well - Congress has already approved continued increases to the minimum wage for the next two years.

The cost of most performers in the index — the Drummers Drumming, Pipers Piping and Lords-a-Leaping — rose a modest 3 to 4 percent, due primarily to an increase in the performers' compensation,

cost of Christmas cont'd... pg. 54...

23rd Annual PNC Christmas Price Index UP 3.1 %

Rising Wages For Milkmaids, Higher Commodity Prices Lead Increases

- Cost of "Twelve Days of Christmas" Song Items Reflect Consumer Pricing Trends -

The significantly higher price of gold and increased compensation for minimum wage workers will make Christmas more expensive this year, according to the PNC Christmas Price Index. The tongue-in-cheek economic analysis by PNC Wealth Management is based on the cost of gifts in the holiday classic, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." According to the 23rd annual survey, the cost of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is \$19,507 in 2007, a 3.1 percent increase over last year. The rise in gift prices mirrored the U.S. government's Consumer Price Index — a widely used measure of inflation calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Consumer Price Index is up 3.5 percent so far this year.

"Each year, the Christmas Price Index reflects trends in the broader economy," said James Dunigan, managing executive of investments for PNC Wealth Management. "This year, increased commodities prices, concerns about the value of the dollar and the first minimum wage increase in 10 years were major factors in the increases to the Christmas Price Index."

"Ringin'" in a Pricier New Year

True Loves will have to pay a bit more for the five Gold Rings this year, as the jewelers who provide the prices for the rings report having no choice but to pass increased prices along to consumers as the price of gold continues to rise.

"The cost of the Gold Rings in this year's Christmas Price Index reflects the general trend of increasing commodity prices in the Consumer Price Index, including gold," said Dunigan. "In addition, increased fears about inflation and the value of the dollar may have led

A Classic Christmas

May the caring spirit of Christmas warm your heart
and bring a smile to your face this holiday season

Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year



from the
families of
**DAVID A.P.
SHAPIERA**
and staff

(705) 286-2021

Cost of Christmas on the Rise...

... from pg. 53

reflecting the current labor market in which the unemployment rate is still below 5 percent. Only the price for the Ladies Dancing was unchanged this year, according to Philadanco, a modern dance company in Philadelphia.

Food Prices Are For the Birds

Among the feathered friends in the Christmas Price Index, the most notable increase was a 20 percent change in the price for six Geese-a-Laying, provided by the National Aviary.

"For True Loves planning to serve a Christmas goose - or six - for a holiday meal, this item will be a bit more expensive," said Dunigan. "Food prices have increased over the last year, which has not impacted birds like Turtle Doves and Partridges, but has had an impact on birds traditionally served as food, like Geese."

Most of the other bird prices in the index remained even with last year's rates, thanks to steady supply and demand for Partridges, Turtle Doves, French Hens and Swans. Aside from the Geese-a-Laying, only the Calling Birds will cost more in 2007. PNC prices the Calling Birds from a national pet store chain, and prices for Calling Birds (or canaries) were up 25 percent this year, thanks to



higher demand and increased shipping costs for retailers.

2007: Most Expensive Christmas Ever

For those True Loves who prefer to do their shopping online, PNC Wealth Management calculates the cost of The Twelve Days of Christmas gifts purchased on the Web. This year, the trends identified in the traditional index are repeated in the Internet version, with overall growth of 3 percent, very close to the 3.1 percent in the traditional index. This year, the Internet index is very similar to the traditional index. For example, the price of gold is significantly higher online in 2007 compared to 2006. And, as with the traditional Christmas Price Index, bird prices are mostly even with or, in some cases, down a bit from 2006 levels. In general, Internet prices are higher than their non-Internet counterparts because of shipping costs.

As part of its annual tradition, PNC Wealth Management also tabulates the "True Cost of Christmas," which is the total cost of items gifted by a True Love who repeats all of the song's verses. This holiday season, very generous True Loves will pay more than ever before - \$78,100 - for all 364 items, up from \$75,122 in 2006. This 4 percent increase is about even with last year's 3.5 percent increase.

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Dream Homes



Welcome to the Canadian version of Dream Homes - for the next few issues we'll be featuring some dream homes that are close to home - right here in Canada. Get your lottery tickets ... most of these homes are currently For Sale !!

Bridle Path, Toronto

\$21.5 million Canadian

Located in Toronto's exclusive Bridle Path neighborhood, this ornate manse boasts 16 bathrooms and high-end amenities like a home theater, billiard room and library. Its elaborate décor includes domed ceilings with hand-carved motifs and medallions. The indoor pool and spa, as well as formal and informal living and dining rooms make it a prime spot for entertaining.



Q. What do you get when you cross a snowman with a shark?
A. Frost bite!

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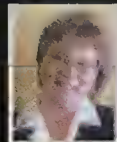
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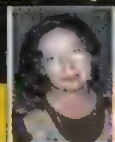
Lynn Craigmyle **



Mary Harnden *



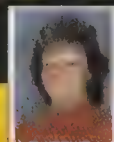
Dave Harris *



Lynne Hodgins *



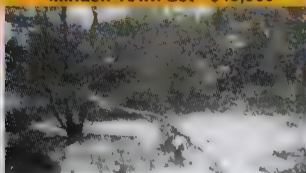
Larry Hussey *



Darlene Reil *

* Broker ** Sales Representative

Minden Town Lot - \$49,900



Excellent building lot on good land with hydro & telephone at roadside. Municipal water & sewers available on this easily accessible, nicely appointed lot.

Call Janice Brookes *

Commercial - \$699,900



Ideally located across from LCBO & beside Home Hardware building. Total building size is 10,000 sq ft plus good sized lot with 106' frontage on Main Street, going back over 300' to 150' of river frontage. Lots of potential for this unique commercial property located right in Haliburton Village.

Call Lynn Craigmyle **



Wishing everyone the best during this holiday season!

Mary Harnden *

Portage Lake - \$269,000



A true cottage awaits you with wood interior throughout on a level lot to launch your own boat with west exposure. Fully furnished with wood/propane stove and only 6 years old!

Call Dave Harris *

More Listings In Our Office

Season's Greetings

And a Happy New Year to All !!

Lynne Hodgins *

Building Lot - \$21,500



Good building lot on year-round municipally plowed road. Close to Wilberforce Village and minutes to public access at Clement Lake.

Call Larry Hussey *

Happy Holidays

And best wishes for a prosperous new year!

Darlene Reil *

Buying or Selling? See Us... We Can Help !!



Church Events

The Nativity Story
Northern Lights Pavilion – 7 p.m.
December 21

Rated PG, this movie which was released last year is the amazing story of one family, one journey and one child that would change the world ... forever. Admission is free. For more information contact Phone: 705-457-2851 x24, or Email: dave@lakesidebaptist.ca

Christmas in the County
Sunday, December 23 – 10:30 a.m.
Minden Community Centre

The Highland Lakes Community Church is pleased to present "Christmas in the County". Please join us for a morning of Dramatic and Musical/Vocal presentations, featuring our "Little Lambs" Children's ministry. There will be Carol singing and some Christmas treats and refreshments served after the program. All are welcome to experience the wonder of the season with us. For more information contact Pastor Ron Mahler Tel: 705 455-9558 or email: reed.mahler@sympatico.ca

Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 23, 2007 - 10:30 a.m.
Full Gospel Lighthouse Pentecostal Church - 12 Dysart Ave.
 Come and join us as we celebrate the birth of our precious Saviour with a Candlelight Service. Everyone is welcome.

Carol Service

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) at 7 p.m.
Irondale Anglican Church
 Reverend Milne will be leading the service.
 Steve McCullough will be the pianist/organist/synthesist

Christmas Eve Services

St. Paul's Anglican Church – Minden
Monday, December 24
 Join us for our Christmas Eve services at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. We are delighted to welcome back English bass-baritone Martin Elliott as our guest soloist at both services. For more information contact Phone: 705-457-9422 Email: bushbell@sympatico.ca

Minden United Church Christmas Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 23 (Advent IV - Love)
 Regular morning worship services at each church
CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24
 3:00 p.m. Family Service at Zion United Church
 7:00 p.m. Family Service at Minden United Church
 9:00 p.m. Communion Service at Maple Lake United Church
Sunday, Dec. 30 - 11 a.m. Joint Service at Minden United Church
Sunday, January 6, 2008 (Epiphany)
 Regular morning worship services at each church



Merry Christmas

Fill your heart with God's light, and spread the love of His message to all you meet.
 Wishing you a blessed 2008!

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Note the following changes
 December 24, Christmas Eve, start time is 8:00 PM
 December 31, New Year's Eve, start time is 7:00 PM
 For information call 457-2851
 Or visit www.celebraterecovery.com

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU

Why is Christmas such a big deal?

There are two reasons why Christmas is such a big deal:

According to the 1994 "Britannica Book of the Year," there are 1.8 billion Christians in a total world population of 5.5 billion, making it the largest religion worldwide. In America, 241 million out of a total population of 281 million people are Christians — that's 85 percent. Because Christians follow Jesus, the birth of Jesus is important to them.

In America, the weeks leading up to Christmas are the biggest shopping weeks of the year. Many retailers make up to 70 percent of their annual revenue in the month preceding Christmas. Therefore, retailers hype the event beyond belief.

Where did Christmas Caroling Come From

In the Middle Ages in England and France, carols were dances accompanied by singing. In the French Midi, for example, the "carol" was a kind of round dance. In time, the word "carol" changed its meaning, referring only to certain kinds of songs. The Anglo-Saxon tradition favoured gathering together small choirs on the village green to sing carols and Christmas songs for the pleasure of passers-by. A number of currently very popular American Christmas carols come directly from France and England.

People Everywhere Share The Dream of Peace

This special season we join with all faiths to pray that the world continues on its way toward realizing that dream.

Happy Holiday

Thank you for your continued support.

Debbie, Gord & Kathryn, and Shirley

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Keep one yourself and give one to a friend or business associate

2 DVD's for \$10 at the following locations

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Q. What do you call an Eskimo cow?
A. An Eskimoo.

Q. What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas?
A. Thanks, I'll never part with it!

Q. If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get?
A. Missletoe!

AWAY IN A MANGER

May the true spirit of Christmas be yours, just as in the manger on that Holy Night when the Star first shone above

Peace and joy to your whole family from ours, all through this season and the coming year



Colleen, Robert, Larissa,
Alexander, Hilary & Staff
Wedgewood Marine



The Oldest Holiday Of Them All... New Years

New Years History

The celebration of the new year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon (actually the first visible crescent) after the Vernal Equinox (first day of spring).

The beginning of spring is a logical time to start a new year. After all, it is the season of rebirth, of planting new crops, and of blossoming. January 1, on the other hand, has no astronomical nor agricultural significance. It is purely arbitrary.

The Babylonian new year celebration lasted for eleven days. Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year's Eve festivities pale in comparison.

The Romans continued to observe the new year in late March, but their calendar was continually tampered with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun.

In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153

BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

Although in the first centuries AD the Romans continued celebrating the new year, the early Catholic Church condemned the festivities as paganism. But as Christianity became more widespread, the early church began having its own religious observances concurrently with many of the pagan celebrations, and New Year's Day was no different. New Years is still observed as the Feast of Christ's Circumcision by some denominations.

During the Middle Ages, the Church remained opposed to celebrating New Years. January 1 has been celebrated as a holiday by Western nations for only about the past 400 years.



New Years Traditions

Traditions of the season include the making of New Year's resolutions. That tradition also dates back to the early Babylonians. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight or quit smoking. The early Babylonian's most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.

The Tournament of Roses Parade dates back to 1886. In that year, members of the Valley Hunt Club decorated their carriages with flowers. It celebrated the ripening of the orange crop in California.

Although the Rose Bowl football game was first played as a

New Years cont'd... pg. 59...

Christmas Joy to You



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Thank you for your patronage.

We look forward to serving you in the new year.



Season's Greetings



May your heart and home be filled with joy during this holiday season and throughout the year.

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Haliburton Home Builders Association

Enter the new years baby around 600 B.C.

... from pg. 58

part of the Tournament of Roses in 1902, it was replaced by Roman chariot races the following year. In 1916, the football game returned as the sports centerpiece of the festival.

The tradition of using a baby to signify the new year was begun in Greece around 600 BC. It was their tradition at that time to celebrate their god of wine, Dionysus, by parading a baby in a basket, representing the annual rebirth of that god as the spirit of fertility. Early Egyptians also used a baby as a symbol of rebirth.

Although the early Christians denounced the practice as pagan, the popularity of the baby as a symbol of rebirth forced the Church to reevaluate its position. The Church finally allowed its members to celebrate the new year with a baby, which was to symbolize the birth of the baby Jesus.

The use of an image of a baby with a New Years banner as a symbolic representation of the new year was brought to early America by the Germans. They had used the effigy since the fourteenth century.



The Revellion:

This nocturnal meal, eaten after the Midnight Mass in France and Canada, originally consisted of a simple snack of biscuits or a piece of tourtière, along with a hot drink. With the years, this snack has been transformed little by little into a more lavish and elaborate meal. The same dishes that are served at Christmas dinner are also served at réveillon, which is essentially limited to family.

In Canada, the custom of Christmas réveillon varies depending on the family, the period and the cultural context. For Francophones living largely in rural areas, Christmas réveillon was not known until the 1930s when family festivities began to take shape with the commercialization of the holiday season.

For Anglophones and city dwellers, on the other hand, Christmas réveillon began to be part of family celebrations much earlier, around 1875. The tendency to feast on Christmas Eve became more and more pronounced with the custom of the decorated tree and the exchange of presents.

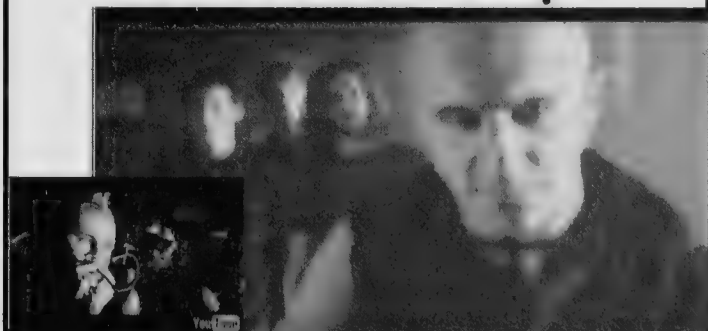
Christmas Dinner:

In contrast to the "réveillon", Christmas dinner in Canada was a midday meal and was part of Francophone as well as Anglophone family tradition. Friends and relations were always present in large numbers on the guest list for the occasion.

More than at any other time, an abundant variety of dishes was the highlight of this great family celebration. Of course the menu would include pea or garden vegetable soup, meats dressed in different ways as well as pastries served only at Christmas time. To wash down this hearty meal and liven up the party, imported or home-made drinks were also served in enormous quantities.

Today this meal is served in the evening, or even sometimes on another day altogether, because of constraints on guests like health, distance and travel, the capricious climate...

They're about to put Haliburton County on the Music Map



Featuring the energetic local talent of Ryan Chalmers, Andrew Postilthwaite, and Kevin Brezina.

Check out the new video "Ultimate Disaster" on Youtube. www.youtube.com and enter in search words: obsidian ultimate disaster. Enjoy and keep an eye for this great band coming live soon!

For more info email: ryan_chalmers@hotmail.com

We're really good at getting people money back right before Christmas.

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You got people

In fact we're really good at it all year round.

Seasons Greetings

From Chad, Esther, Cindy B, Brenda & Cindy W

457-1676 Maple Ave, Haliburton

What's Happening New Year's Eve in Haliburton County

Royal Canadian Legion – Haliburton

Last New Year's Eve was a great success and this year promises to be even better.

Come out and ring in the New Year with "Willy and the Poor Boys" (those of you who have heard this band before know how good they are). The evening's festivities include draws, spot dances, party favours and a hot and cold buffet!! Tickets are on sale at the branch for \$25 per person, which includes a \$6.00 taxi voucher (in-town) for a ride home. For more information on the New Year's Eve bash, please call Carla at 457-2571. Everyone is welcome!

Royal Canadian Legion – Wilberforce

Dance to the tunes of a rockin' DJ and enjoy a cold buffet at the Wilberforce Legion on New Year's Eve. From 8:00 pm until 2:00 am, with the dinner at 11:00 pm, the night is sure to be a fun and enjoyable party for all. Tickets are available at the Legion \$18.00 single, \$35.00 couple. For more information, call 448-2221.

Bring In the New Years at the Frost

Why not trek up to the Frost Centre New Years Eve and join in the celebration. It's called *Nostalgia of the Frost* and the evening gets underway at 7 pm with cocktails. At 8' there's a gourmet dinner. After that there will be dancing to music from the 50's 60's and 70's. There'll be champagne at midnight, and maybe a surprise. Guests get to stay overnight, with a breakfast in the morning. All that for \$225 a couple. There's only 16 tickets left out of the 120 which were available, so if you're interested, get in touch quick.

The Frost Centre Institute is located at 20130 Highway 35. The mailing address is P.O. Box 1049 Minden Ontario, KOM 2K0. Call Kyla or Sarah at the main number (705) 766-0810 for tickets.

Martinwood Resort (448-1920) Dine & Dance! Festivities start at 6:30pm with a succulent buffet featuring prime rib, salmon and chicken, followed by dancing in "The Atrium" to live music by Brad McGuoy of Stratford. The spa will also be open for appointments New Year's Eve. Enjoy a New Year's Day brunch from 10am to 2pm.

The Bonnieview Inn (457-2350) Celebrations include a 5 course gourmet Feast, featuring crab, pickerel, lamb & filet mignon. Stan Russell's Trio will be playing live music, with a DJ following. Champagne will be served at midnight including party favours to toast the New year.

Halimar Resort (457-1300) Dancing & Karaoke accompanies a special 5 course a la carte menu starting at 5:30pm. Party and enjoy a spectacular view of the Lake.

Wigamog Inn (457-2000) Wigamog invites you to a grand hot & cold buffet dinner starting at 6pm, followed by a DJ Dance with a champagne toast at midnight, lots of door prizes.

Old Country House (457-2301) Fine dining! A 6 course dinner including wines will be served from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. The menu features elegant appetizers, entrees of lamb, roast pork and charcuterie, followed by cheeses and divine desserts. Please call for reservations.

Delta Pinestone (457-1800) The Delta Pinestone offers a Family Feast starting at 6:30pm with a buffet dinner and magic show, followed by an outdoor campfire around 9:00pm complete with hot chocolate. Lots of fun! Please reserve. They also offer their "First Night Celebration Dinner" featuring an a la carte menu in the Heatherwood dining room followed by a New Year's party in the Highlanders. Don't miss the New Year's Day buffet brunch from 9am to 1pm.

McKee's Place (457-3443) Kick up your heels this New Year's Eve to the always popular live house band "Sideshow Bob" starting at 9:00pm. The evening includes party favours, spot dances and a late night festive buffet. Call Karen for reserved seating.

Rockcliffe Tavern (286-1460) Celebrate early! The New Year's Eve Bash will be held December 29th with live band entertainment, midnight buffet & champagne, tickets available at the bar.

Wild Orchid Bistro (286-1532) Open for their Thai cuisine and regular menu.

Grill on the Gull (286-3886) At press time, this information was unavailable. Please call for details.

The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House (489-1939) Savour the 8 different "special menu" items for New Years Eve, ranging from surf & turf, pasta and steaks to chicken "Oscar". Appealing appetizers and special desserts round out the menu. Seatings at 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30pm by reservation only.

The Millpond Restaurant (489-3353) Call Brad for details.

That Place in Carnarvon (489-4449) Regular hours, great dinner specials, reservations recommended.

The Northwood Inn (457-1710) Have a rockin' good time to the sounds of "Kaos", midnight snacks will be served.

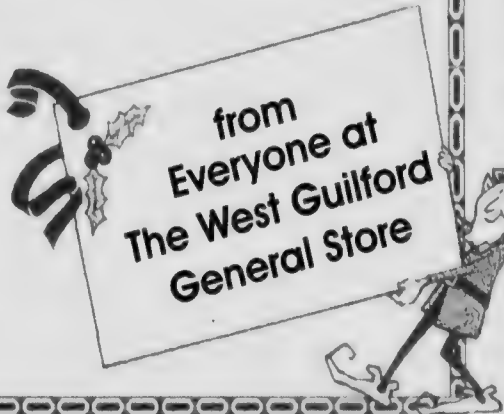
Editor's note:

we attempted to contact all purveyors of fine food and entertainment in our area for their New Year's Eve activities and menus, however, at press time, we had not heard from some. If your favourite restaurant is missing from this list, please be sure to call them directly and ask for New Year's Eve celebration details.

Q. What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?
A. Claustrophobic.

A sincere thank
you to all our
customers who
made the past
year an
outstanding
one. We look
forward to
serving you
in the years
to come!

Deck the Halls



Jillian Denniston, Ryan Sherwood, Krissy Thompson, Amanda Dovell, Kristine Barry, Rhonda Shaw, Pat Morrison, Chris Chumbley, Leslie Chumbley, Drew Paul, John Currie, Kaley Bateman, Victoria Burke & Chad, Steph, Bill, Edna, Chase & Ellie and Cori Burden.

OTF Grant Breathes New Life into Highlands Squash Club

On Tuesday morning, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, Laurie Scott, was in Haliburton to celebrate some wonderful news for the local community. Thanks to a recently awarded, \$15,000, grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, The Highlands Squash Club will be able to complete much needed renovations to their facility.

Joining MPP Scott to congratulate the group on their achievement was OTF representative Klara Oyler.

"As the MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, I am pleased with this great opportunity to recognize and encourage the dedicated and hard working volunteers at the Highlands Squash Club," said Scott. "The renovations to the club, as a result of this funding, will ensure that people of all ages in our community have access to this important and fun form of recreation and physical activity."

Although the club has been around since 1980, the club had become inactive in 1999. In its hey-day, the club was used by over 100 members of the community on an ongoing basis. Thanks to a dedicated group of community members, the club was re-opened in 2004. The grant from the Foundation will enable the club to replace the heating and A/C systems and install observation windows. These upgrades are in addition to subsequent work to be done to restore the courts to a more useable quality as well as roof repair. Once the upgrades are complete, programs/activities will include a membership drive, an open house, and the introduction of house leagues - as well as partnerships with schools to provide access for children and youth.

"The support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation is the key to re-launching a healthy and vibrant squash facility in Haliburton County," said Glen Carter (President). "Without this support, the purchase of essential capital equipment would have been extremely difficult and time-consuming."

The Club provides two squash courts in the Village of Haliburton. There are 65 current members and there have been

60-65 pay-as-you-go members since 2004. There are also over 100 interested individuals in the database. The Club is currently providing first come first serve access to the courts by providing community access to the key and by providing intergenerational round robin play two nights per week.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For 25 years, the Foundation has supported the growth and vitality of communities across the province. OTF continues to strengthen the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives. For more information, please visit



www.trilliumfoundation.org.

Please visit our website at www.highlands-squash-club.com or for more information, contact Glen Carter at 457-2862 (kashaga@sympatico.ca) or Don Gage at 457-1110 (dongage@candlelight.ca).

Christmas Thanks

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for your business over the past year. May all of you have a joyful holiday season

Hope to see you next year!

Janice Craig & Staff

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Holiday Greetings

Wishing you and your family the best this holiday season has to offer.

Mr. July is getting mail....

The calendar released in October by the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation has gained a certain degree of notoriety.

The 12 page calendar features members of the Haliburton Highlands arts community in a variety of semi-nude poses. The publication is a fund raiser created to assist the Foundation in encouraging the arts in Minden Hills. Each page features shots of artists in their studios or on the landscape, many with little more than a stitch on. "It is a fun fund-raiser," Michael Fay, Chairman of the Foundation stated. "We thought we would create something that was a little provocative and artistic at the same time."

While the calendar has proven to be a great fund-raising success, (there are still a few copies available), it has also generated an interesting response for those who have taken it all off for the arts. Many of the models have heard the comment. "Oh, it's you. I didn't recognize you with your clothes on." While others have demurred at requests to 'reveal all'.

The most generous compliment came recently from the staff at the Minden Post Office. A letter arrived recently addressed to "Mr. July" Minden. Without hesitation, the letter was handed over to the driver for Rural Route 2 and directed it to 1234 Crooked House Road, the home of Grahame Wales, the artist whose picture is featured on the July page of the calendar.

"It was from a friend of ours on Boshkung Lake," Grahame explained. "He read about the fund-raising project in the Communicator and wanted to see what all the fuss was about." Grahame, with his wife Debbie, create pottery at their studio, Earth and Fire Pottery, west of Carnarvon. "I guess word had gotten out about the calendar and the staff of the post office must have seen it. How else would they know who 'Mr. July' was," Grahame asked?

The letter contained an order for one of the calendars and a donation for the Foundation. "We were happy to get the request for the calendar and the donation. That is what this project is all about," he said.

The calendar released in October by the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation has gained a certain degree of notoriety.

Copies of the calendar are still available, but supplies are dwindling rapidly. Find out who the artists are from all twelve months of the year in the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation Artists Exposed calendar. The calendar is available from the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, Whispers North Gallery and Gifts in Minden and Pine Reflections in Carnarvon. "Mr. July" and members of the Foundation Board of Directors also have copies for sale. The cost is \$20, \$25 if you wish to have it mailed out. Call the Minden Hills Cultural Centre for details: 286-3763.

Sleepy After Turkey??? Here's Why...

Some people think they feel sleepy after a roast turkey dinner. Turkey contains many of our essential dietary amino acids. One is called L-Tryptophan. One of the first amino acids to appear as a supplement in the early marketing wave of exotic nutrients, it was billed as a natural sleep aid. It is involved in the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter. Serotonin may reduce certain pain reactions and have a tranquilizing effect. Starchy foods such as potatoes and stuffing are high in carbohydrates which contain L-Tryptophan.

Q. How does Santa take pictures?
A. With his North Pole-roid.



Merry Christmas!

Here's wishing you
a joyful holiday season!

Our sincere thanks for your patronage

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Monte, Andrea & Staff

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Redstone River Luge Launching Volunteer Membership Program

Sliding has never been so much fun! ... and now it can be free for people who would like to volunteer their time. Red River Luge is launching a Volunteer Membership Program, which encourages volunteers to come out and help with tasks such as track preparation, administration, phoning, event planning and organizing for race days, etc.

Normally memberships cost \$180 for adults and \$120 for youth/children, however the volunteer membership program will exchange volunteer hours for discounts off the amount of a membership. For more details please contact Robert or Lesley at (705) 754-1873.

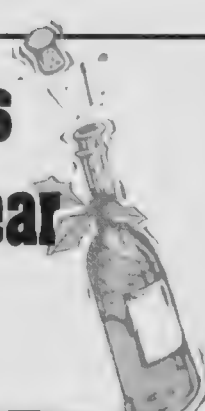
Redstone River Luge is a non-profit organization and in addition to the volunteer hour exchange, all volunteer hours count for community service, if you are a student.

Redstone River Luge is aiming to open their tracks on the 1st weekend in January, weather permitting.

There are some exciting events being planned for this year, so watch in The Communicator for details.

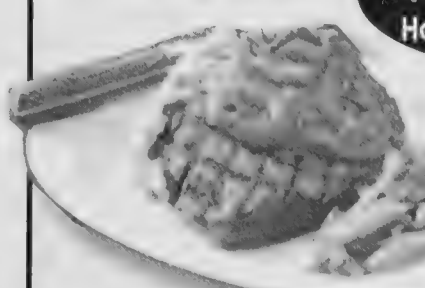


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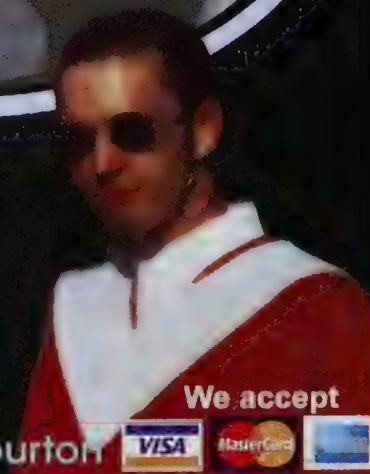
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Christmas Drinks

CHRISTMAS PUDDING COCKTAIL

500ml Guinness Stout
100ml Southern Comfort
100ml Drambuie
Start with the Southern comfort then add the Drambuie before finally top up with the Guinness. A quick and easy cocktail that is sure to warm you up this winter!

SANTA'S CHRISTMAS DELIGHT COCKTAIL

3 parts Irish whiskey
Soda water
Lime juice from 1 squeezed lime
A few drops of grenadine
Mix all the ingredients together in any order and serve on the rocks in a tall glass. You can try other variations by replacing the soda with either ginger ale or even

SNOWBALL COCKTAIL

1 part chilled advocate
2 parts chilled lemonade
Lime juice from 1/2 a squeezed lime
Sugar

An old favorite which certainly seems to have more relevance this time of the year! Simply mix the lime, advocate and lemonade together.

For the best effect hold back some lime juice and dip the top of the glass in the lime and then into the sugar to create a frosted effect, serve in a champagne saucer.

RAT PACK MANHATTAN COCKTAIL

30 ml of Bourbon
30 ml of Grand Marnier
15 ml of red vermouth
15 ml of dry vermouth
4 dashes of Angostura bitters
Fill your cocktail shaker with 2/3 of ice before adding the above ingredients. Shake vigorously for a couple of minutes before straining and serving in a Martini glass along with a cocktail cherry.

CHRISTMAS CHAMPAGNE COCKTAIL

1 fifth cointreau
1 fifth mandarin vodka (Absolut or Smirnoff)
3 fifths chilled champagne
A sugar lump
Mix all the ingredients together and serve in a champagne flute with a slice of orange

HOLLY-TINI

2 parts vodka or gin depending on your fancy!
1 part dry martini
1/2 part crème de menthe
A festive, green variation of this all time classic, shaken not stirred!

HOT BUTTERED RUM

50 ml of dark rum
1 tablespoon of sugar syrup
3 cloves
Cinnamon stick
Boiling water
2 teaspoons of unsalted butter
Nutmeg
A great drink for warming you up this winter. Using an Irish coffee glass or something similar that will be able to take the heat. Pour the shot of dark rum into the glass along with the tablespoon of syrup sugar, the 3 cloves and the cinnamon stick. Top up with the boiling water then add the butter topped with a little grated nutmeg.

WINTER MARTINI

30 ml of Apple Schnapps
75 ml of Cognac
1/2 teaspoon Sugar Syrup
Fill your cocktail shaker 2/3 with ice, before adding the above ingredients. Shake vigorously for a couple of minutes before straining and serving in a Martini glass with a slice of apple.

CHRISTMAS RUM PUNCH

30 ml Spiced Rum
30 ml White Rum
50 ml Fresh Orange Juice
30 ml Cranberry Juice
2 dashes of Angostura bitters

Once again fill the cocktail shaker with 2/3 with ice. Add the ingredients and shake. Strain and serve in a Collins glass, finished off with a little grated nutmeg!

BRANDIED EGG NOG

5 scoops of vanilla ice cream (or eggnog ice cream)
60 ml of brandy
60 ml of milk
15 ml of Grand Marnier
Grated Nutmeg
This drink is best prepared using a blender to ensure the ice cream is fully whisked. Add all the ingredients except the nutmeg and blend for 1 minute or until the mixture appears all light and fluffy. Serve in a tall glass finished with a touch of grated nutmeg

The Communicator reminds everyone to drink responsibly this holiday season! The life you may be saving is not only your own, but the life of an innocent man, woman or child.

You can never take it back!!



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Vicious Bear Attack Not For The Faint of Heart...

These are pictures of an actual polar bear attack in Churchill. These pictures were taken while people watched and could do nothing to stop the attack!

Reports from the local newspaper say that the victim will make a full recovery. This is not for the squeamish...



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Turkey Tips...

It's Cooked, But It's Pink!!

I've cooked my turkey to the proper endpoint temperature as you've recommended, but it still appears to have a red or pink coloration. Why is that?

Red or pink coloration is caused by the age and sex of the bird, dietary components, processing techniques or the ventilation system of the oven used for cooking. Red or pink colouring does not affect the taste or safety of the product as long as the meat has been cooked to the proper temperature. (ie. when a meat thermometer in the inner thigh reads 180° F (82°C) for a stuffed turkey or 170° F (77°C) for an unstuffed turkey).

Dinner's Over... Now What??

After cooking, keep the turkey hot, above 140°F (60°C) or refrigerate below 40°F (4°C). **DO NOT LEAVE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE FOR MORE THAN 2 HOURS!!!**

Storing Cooked Turkey:

Cooked turkey can be stored in a covered container, plastic bag or aluminium foil for up to 4 days in the refrigerator or up to 3 months in the freezer.

What To Do With Any Leftovers

For the best quality of turkey leftovers, wrap well in small packages, or put in shallow plastic containers. Be sure to use refrigerated cooked turkey within three to four days. Turkey can be frozen covered in broth in a covered container for up to 6 months. Or freeze turkey slices or pieces in airtight packages and use within 4 months.



Baker's Secret

Tips for those who love to bake

Oops! I've Run Out Of...

Cream, Whipped... If your recipe calls for 1 cup of whipped cream and you don't have any, try using 1 ½ cups of chilled evaporated milk with 1 teaspoon of lemon juice added. Whip as normal. Another handy substitute for whipped cream is to puree a banana, then whip with a beaten egg white. Add a drop or two of vanilla extract and sugar to taste.

Eggs... If the recipe calls for more than 2 eggs, 1 egg can be omitted, but add 2 tablespoons milk and ½ teaspoon baking powder to replace it. For a clever scrambled-egg extender, add a cupful of crumbled crackers if you don't have an extra egg or 2!

Flavor Fill-ins... A sherry flavor may be obtained by combining the flavors of rose and almond extracts. Pistachio flavor may be created by mixing vanilla and almond extracts.

Flour... A handy replacement for 1 cup of flour is 1 ½ cups of fine bread crumbs. Or to obtain 1 cup of all purpose flour, substitute with 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons of cake or pastry flour.

Food Coloring... When frosting a cake, you can substitute food coloring by adding some unsweetened flavored drink mix to your icing sugar.

Honey... For sweet success, replace a cup of honey with either a cup of molasses or corn syrup.

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Haliburton Highlands Hospital Auxiliary

The members of the Haliburton Highlands Hospital Auxiliary made a pledge early in 2007 to raise \$85,000 towards the total cost of a PAC (digital imaging) machine for the Haliburton Hospital.

The PAC machine, which is already in use, will facilitate sending X-Rays to locations in Ontario, Canada and other parts of the world, via the Internet, where they can be analyzed by specialists. Hospital Auxiliary member Joan Stinson is proud to announce that the \$85,000 figure has already been realized, and she recently gave a cheque for \$35,000 to board members of the HHHS. The cheque, (in addition to an earlier one in March for \$50,000), represents the final payment which came in advance of the projected 2008 deadline.

This is a tremendous amount of money to be raised in such a small community as ours, and testifies to the terrific effort on behalf of the Auxiliary, who now number over sixty active members, and about fifty associate members. .

As if the raising of the funds for the PAC machine were not enough, the Auxiliary is also responsible this year alone for raising an additional \$48,000 towards emergency ultra-sound equipment, \$3,547 towards a vital-signs monitor, \$8,020 for IV pumps, and \$4,000 for chairs for the emergency room. An additional \$2,468 was also raised for a respirator, which lets people breathe easier when they are being transported to larger facilities outside the county.

"We're a group of men and women working hard to provide what you and I might need if we're in the hospital," states Joan. "We concentrate on buying new, or updating equipment for use in such places as the

physio' department, long term care, and acute care."

How do they do it? "It's basically from donations from individuals and from our fundraising events," Joan says. The secret of the Auxiliary's successful fundraising is that it's an ongoing proposition. Some of the Auxiliary's fundraisers have included, the Annual Geranium Sale, the "No Bake, Bake Sales", Bridge & Euchre Tournaments, St. Patrick's Day Lunch, "Tag Day", Quilt Raffle, the sale of Christmas ornaments, and the Annual "Taste of Italy" Dinner and Silent Auction, which is always a tremendous success. "Taste of Italy" this year raised over \$7000, which went towards the PAC machine.



The Haliburton Highlands Hospital Auxiliary also runs the gift shop in the Haliburton Hospital.

It offers a variety of merchandise for sale, ranging from hand cream to beautiful stained glass items. There's a wonderful selection of seasonal flags (and holders) as well as beautiful hand-knits donated by members of our community. There's original pieces like ceramic jewelry, stained glass, and some pewter. All the proceeds go to the hospital, and it's

a wonderful place for the Christmas shopper. The store is open Monday through Saturday from 12:00 noon until 3:00 p.m.

The Haliburton Highlands Hospital Auxiliary should make a template as a guide to successful fundraising.

The Communicator would like to thank the Auxiliary on behalf of all those who have needed to use the equipment, and thanks in advance, from people who might some day be in need. It could be you or me.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary should call Joan Stinson at (705) 457-3919.

Pictured: Joan Stinson (third from left) presents final payment cheque of \$35,000 to Executive Directors Warren Arseneau, Jeane Anthon, Janice Hardy, Marg Risk, and Olaf Kraulis

THANK YOU

to all our wonderful clients & friends for your support this year. May you all have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year!



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Q. Why does Scrooge love Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer?

A. Because every buck is dear to him.

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Stress Busters for new years

Are you someone who needs encouragement? It might be an overwhelming credit card balance that has you down in the dumps; or it might be someone who's made tremendous progress with repaying debt only to start overspending again.

Perhaps today you feel like the burden you carry is far too heavy to bear. Do you ever feel like a loser because you think everyone else you know is doing well, but you're in worse shape than ever — and ashamed to admit it?

It's a rare person who doesn't get discouraged from time to time. Rather than give up, arm yourself with the emotional tools you need to get through. Consider a few suggestions I always follow.

NEVER AT NIGHT: Have you ever noticed that things always seem worse at night? It must have something to do with darkness. I decided years ago to never make a decision greater than what to eat for dinner after the sun goes down. I'm just not at my best in the evening. And I try not to ponder difficult situations at night, either. Invariably, I discover things always appear brighter in the morning.

GET REAL: You may be discouraged over a situation that took many years to create. Now you want everything to change overnight. That's probably not going to happen. It will take time, and that requires patience and perseverance. Be willing to take things one step at a time, even when all you can take is a baby step.

WRITE: There's nothing more beneficial to a cluttered mind than a sense of order. Grab a pencil and paper and start writing. Get it all out. Now organize your thoughts. Before you know it you will have devised a plan, and that's exactly what you need to gain control of your emotions and your situation.

TAKE THIS EXAMPLE TO HEART: There is no better way to illustrate the value of courage, persistence and perseverance than by giving you a quick overview of one man's life.

- Age 22: Failed in business.
- Age 23: Ran for legislature and was defeated.
- Age 24: Again failed in business.
- Age 25: Elected to legislature.
- Age 26: Sweetheart died.

STRESS BUSTERS

Quick Tips To Lower That Stress Level



- Age 27: Had a nervous breakdown.
- Age 29: Defeated for Speaker.
- Age 31: Defeated for Elector.
- Age 34: Defeated for Congress.
- Age 37: Elected to Congress.
- Age 39: Defeated for Congress.

- Age 46: Defeated for Senate.
- Age 47: Defeated for nomination of Vice President.
- Age 49: Defeated for Senate.
- Age 51: Elected President of the United States.

That's the record of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln's deep conviction that God had given him a commission to fulfill accounted for his deep humility and ability to push on in the face of difficulties and failures that would have discouraged most people.

No matter what difficulty you are facing today, you are encouraged to persevere. Hold on and never, ever give up! As long as you are headed in the right direction, even the baby steps count.

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The Microdermabrasion treatment is performed with no discomfort. Some patients with very sensitive skin might experience a sensation similar to a mild sunburn. Age, lifestyle and skin condition determine the number of treatments required to achieve results. The improvements can be quite dramatic. Most clients see immediate improvement. With a

series of treatments, years are easily removed from the appearance of the skin.

Younger looking skin, redefined and firmer facial contour, reduction in fine lines and wrinkles, reduced pore size, increased skin elasticity and improved textural irregularities are what you can expect to achieve from Microdermabrasion. As the system gradually abrades epidermal skin cells to treat a vast range of skin problems such as sun damaged skin, enlarged pores, uneven pigmentation, blackheads and comedones and superficial scars, activates cell renewal and stretch marks. "The smile lines and facial expression lines are ones that many clients would like to diminish, and this treatment can do that!" says Marcy.

"Prevention and aftercare are very important," says Marcy. You must stop using your alpha hydroxy acids, Accutane and avoid sun exposure 1 week prior to the treatment. One week following the treatment you must drink a lot of water, use professional moisturizing cream, avoid saunas, whirlpools, and...the sun. The fresh skin will pick up the damaging UV rays quickly, defeating the purpose of sun damage removal. "You must use a sunscreen with a SPF of at least 30. Sunscreen should be the first thing you apply when you wake up in the morning."

It is exciting to be able to turn back the ageing clock, and stop the clock from ticking. Looking youthful is wonderful, but knowledge, wisdom, growth and love is beautiful." Thank you, Marcy Wilkins.

Help Wanted: Veterinary Hospital

Permanent Part-time receptionist

needed for a busy Veterinary Hospital. Self starter, team player, animal lover and someone that can handle a hectic pace. Previous reception and computer experience is a must. Resumes can be dropped off at the Minden Animal Hospital or emailed to indenanimalhospital@gmail.com. No phone calls pls. Box 429 Minden, Ont, K0M 2K0

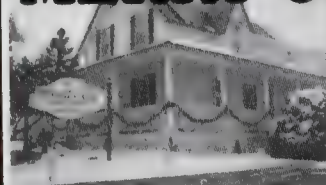


Merry Christmas

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Give Holiday Trimmings A Second Life

Americans use 38 thousand miles of holiday ribbon each year - enough to tie a bow around the Earth!

There is a surefire way to have your holiday gifts keep on giving-recycle. It's estimated that Americans generate some four million extra tons of trash between Thanksgiving and New Year's alone.

Industry experts from Waste Management would like to remind consumers that the holidays are no time to take a holiday from recycling.

For example, Americans mail more than two billion new holiday cards every year. Why not use these cards in crafts projects, instead of forwarding them to the nearest landfill? Or consider sending some holiday e-mail messages.

The same goes for the estimated 38 thousand miles of holiday ribbon used each year. That's enough ribbon to tie a bow around the Earth. Instead of holiday gift wrap and ribbon, use reusable gift bags or plain, old-fashioned newspaper comics when you wrap.

Another way you can give the earth a gift this holiday season is to use china at your holiday gathering instead of paper plates. And don't forget to add your holiday scraps to the compost heap.

When the holidays are over, think about recycling your Christmas tree into landscape mulch, compost or a wildlife habitat. See if your community offers curbside pickup or convenient drop-off locations, or contact your local conservation and wildlife clubs that might want the trees for wildlife habitats.

Let the three Rs be your guide this holiday season and all year round-reduce, reuse and recycle.

Q. What kind of bird can write?

A. A pen-guin

Yuletide Greetings

May the beauty of the holidays shine throughout the season for you and yours.

Merry Christmas!

Janet, Tony and Natasha

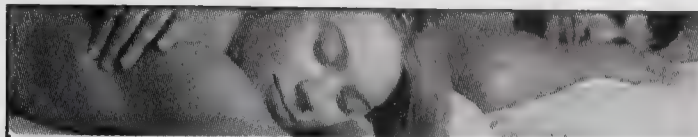
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Q. What do you get if you cross Santa with a detective ?

A. Santa Clues!



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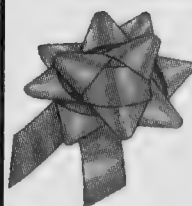
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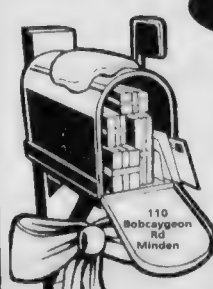
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Spirits Of The Season

Safe Party Hosting Reduces the Legal Risk, Health Unit Says

As party revelers get set to raise a glass on New Year's Eve, a caution flag is also going up ahead of the celebrations.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit warns local residents of the potential legal risks they face if a party they host goes wrong.

"The liability message has not changed," says Bridget McFarthing, a Health Promoter with the HKPR District Health Unit. "You can be sued if you serve alcohol to guests at a party, and this results in them becoming impaired and injuring themselves or others."

The Health Unit's reminder about safe party hosting comes in the wake of a landmark Supreme Court of Canada decision on the role of party hosts.

In that May 2006 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that party hosts who provided a venue for an adult 'bring-your-own booze' (BYOB) party had no legal responsibility when a guest who was intoxicated left and caused a crash.

Since the court decision pertains to a BYOB party, McFarthing notes the door is still open for a lawsuit in cases where a party host serves alcohol.

"Social hosts, and even employers, who continue to provide alcohol to a guest who is obviously drunk, and who they know will drive, may be held liable for any injuries resulting from a crash," she notes.

Lawsuits could also occur if injuries result from an underage drinking party held at a home. Organizers of alcohol-related functions, such as a wedding in a rented hall, could be held legally liable if they do not take steps to ensure the safety of guests while on the property, McFarthing adds.

"Being a safe party host doesn't mean you spoil the fun," she says. "It means you are protecting yourself legally and being socially responsible for the actions of guests at your party."

With the holidays on the horizon, McFarthing encourages local residents to celebrate in the right spirit of the season. That means being a smart party host by doing the following:

- Limit your drinking or don't drink at all. You are a role model and are responsible for your guests.
- Serve snacks to guests because eating helps to slow down the absorption of alcohol.
- Stop serving alcohol a few hours before the party is over.
- Serve drinks to your guests yourself. Do not provide a self-serve bar, as guests may drink more if given unlimited access to free alcohol.
- When serving alcohol, offer low-alcohol and alcohol-free cocktails and other drinks, such as water.
- Find out how your guests are getting home.
- Have a plan for guests who can't drive home. Know your designated drivers, and ensure they are sober. Keep cash and phone numbers ready for taxis.

"In a May 2006 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that party hosts who provided a venue for an adult 'bring-your-own booze' (BYOB) party had no legal responsibility when a guest who was intoxicated left and caused a crash."

Holiday Hangover: Some Helpful Hints

The best way to avoid a hangover is to not drink in the first place! But with holiday parties galore, here are some tips just in case.

The Dog that Bit You

Hangovers are the result of a combination of dehydration, a loss of sugars and salts, and a reaction to the impurities in alcohol.

The Night Of

1) Eat while you're drinking to slow the absorption of alcohol.

2) Go slow. The body can process an ounce of alcohol an hour. Drink a glass of water for every alcoholic beverage you have.



3) Remember that sugary drinks mask the taste of alcohol, giving you an unrealistic view of how much you're drinking.

4) Stick to one type of alcohol: "Never mix, never worry." Dark liquors contain more impurities that make for headaches.

5) Know when to stop!

6) Have a small snack before you go to bed.

The Day After

1) Re-hydrate. Drink water, juice, a fruit smoothie or a sports drink like Gatorade.

More alcohol gives temporary relief but will just prolong the agony.

2) Medicate. Take multivitamins, vitamin C and an aspirin.

3) Eat up. Eggs or bananas are good choices. Eggs are good sources of cysteine, a substance that breaks down toxins in the liver. Bananas are high in magnesium, which relaxes your pounding blood vessels, and natural antacids, which soothe an upset tummy.

4) Sleep it off. Close the blinds, unplug the phone, apply a cold washcloth to the forehead and get more sleep.

5) Work it out. Go for a walk. The exercise and fresh air will do your body good. Oxygen will help continue the process of breaking down toxins.

Responsible Drinking

... from pg. 72

- Be prepared for overnight guests.
- Don't make alcohol the focus of the party. Plan a fun activity.
- Decide in advance how you will deal with guests who drink too much. Before the party begins, ask friends to be non-drinking helpers.
- Do not serve alcohol before a planned activity such as skiing, snowmobiling, tobogganing or skating. Doing so can affect your guest's co-ordination and judgment.

With impaired driving remaining the leading criminal cause of death in Canada, McFarthing is hopeful the spirits of the season are kept in check by party hosts who think ahead.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Our best wishes to all our friends and patrons for a safe and happy holiday. Thankyou for your continued patronage. We look forward to seeing you in the new year!

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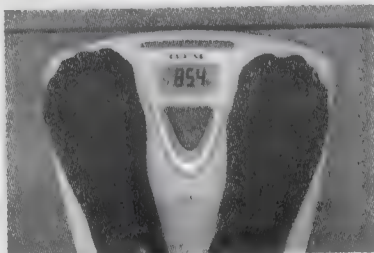
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How Not to gain weight over the holidays

The average Canadian gains one pound over Christmas (the average American gains five). Here are some suggestions on how to keep the weight off

1. Drink a glass of water between each alcoholic drink. Or if you are drinking spirits, use water as a mixer.
2. Choose your calories wisely. If there are a number of desserts on the table, choose the one you will enjoy the most instead of sampling them all. Then you can enjoy what you are eating, without overdoing it.
3. It's boring common sense, but watch your portion sizes. And don't overdo it on second helpings.
4. Organize family activities around something active. Play ball hockey or go skating. You'll remember a fun game with the family much more fondly than a second piece of apple pie in front of the TV.
5. If it's a potluck, bring your own low-fat appetizer. That way, you'll know at least one thing you are eating is healthy.

6. Avoid standing next to the buffet. It just begs to be eaten.
7. Offer to walk the dogs or play with the kids at family get-togethers. You can avoid dishes and burn some calories.
8. If you are preparing a meal, chew gum to avoid snacking.
9. Plan ahead. If you know you are going to be away from your gym for a while, take your running shoes or an exercise mat with you.
10. Don't starve yourself all day, so you can pig out at the party later. Try to eat normal meals as much as possible, with healthy snacks in between.



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- "Home Food Safety...It's In Your Hands" Secrets For Safe And Festive Holiday Dining

During the holidays, food is the centerpiece for celebrating with family and friends. As many people plan to toast the season with a buffet or potluck meal rather than the more traditional sit-down dinner, holiday hosts must take extra care to safeguard guests from food poisoning.

According to a recent national consumer survey conducted by the American Dietetic Association and the ConAgra Foods Foundation (Impulse Research Corporation), the majority of diners will participate in buffet-style (70 percent) or potluck (55 percent) gatherings this holiday season. And, of the nearly 40 percent who plan to host holiday get-togethers, they'll be serving popular festive foods such as cheeses (53 percent), pasta salads, dips/dressings (53 percent) and deviled eggs/egg-based salads or other fancy egg-based entrées (49 percent), foods that can grow harmful bacteria quickly when left out on a buffet table for more than two hours.

"When hosting a festive gathering, make sure guests leave with their holiday gifts - but not a case of the 'buffet blues,' also known as food poisoning," said Carolyn O'Neil, registered dietitian and national spokesperson for the ADA/ConAgra Foods Home Food Safety program. "It is important to take extra precautions when serving holiday buffets and potlucks because they often sit out for long periods of time while guests snack, chat and revel in holiday cheer."

Making a List and Checking it Twice

1. When shopping at the supermarket, pick up meats last and ask to have them bagged separately from other groceries.
2. Don't forget to check the "sell-by" date. If it has passed, don't buy the product.
3. Wash hands before, during and after food preparation. Sing your favorite holiday carol for at least 20 seconds while lathering up.
4. Defrost meat in the refrigerator or in the microwave on the defrost setting, never on the counter.
5. Use two cutting boards, one for raw meats and another for fruits and vegetables. Color-coded cutting boards can help you remember which is which.
6. Use separate spoons and forks to taste, stir and serve food.
7. Always use a meat thermometer to check the doneness of foods. Favorite holiday foods like whole turkey should be cooked to at least 180°F and ham to at least 140°F. Remember to reheat leftovers to 165°F and bring gravy to a boil before serving a second time.
8. Foods should not be left out of refrigeration for more than two hours. Encourage guests to visit the refrigerator for those second and third rounds.
9. Always refrigerate foods promptly below 40°F.

Merry Christmas!



Let us
remember the
reason for the
season during
this special time
of the year.

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Danielle, Katrina

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Ghost Stories

Scary Tales

The following is a fun little column for those who like ghost stories... Whether these are true or not we don't know, but they are stories told by those who believe they saw real ghosts!! If anything, they do make for interesting little stories... enjoy...



Gawsworth Hall

Gawsworth Hall is a half-timbered, sixteenth century manor house situated in Macclesfield, Cheshire. According to many sources it has a number of ghosts.

The mansion was once occupied by Mary Fitton, the maid of honour to Elizabeth I, who is now believed to haunt not only the house but the church and the surrounding roads.

It is rumoured that Mary Fitton was the 'Dark Lady' that Shakespeare wrote of in his sonnets.

In the 1970s, the smell of incense was reported near a priest's room in the hall. This room was used as a hiding place for holy men in the sixteenth century.

The Old Rectory is also thought to be haunted. Smashing glass and various knocks and bangs have been heard and, on one occasion, an image of a man with a pointed beard was seen in a dark alcove.

Maggoty's Wood, nearby the Hall, is said to be haunted by Samuel Johnson, the last professional jester in England. He has been seen dancing around the wood, near the place he is buried.



Scientifically Speaking

What When Where Why How

How fast can a rabbit run?

Hares are some of the speediest animals around. The white-tailed jackrabbit, which is actually a hare, can hit speeds of up to 72 km/h/45 mph for short periods. It can leap 6 m/20 ft straight up into the air to keep an eye on pursuing predators.



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Tis the Season for Cross Country Skiing

Haliburton Highlands Cross Country Ski Club - 2008 Events & Programs

Submitted By Joleen Thomas

There is no time like right now to join the Haliburton Highlands Cross Country Ski Club!! Snow is not an issue this year – there is plenty of that – and here is a sample of what's in store for members ...

Races are on!

On January 26th and 27th the Haliburton Ski club will host the Haliburton Open. Once again this year it will be an OUA qualifying race, and there will be lots of university squads attending. It will also serve as a qualifying race for the Ontario Winter Games for youngsters who ski in the Mini-Midget, Midget or Juvenile categories (those in Grade 5 to Grade 10 at school). Furthermore, there will be age group categories for Masters, so plan to ski it or plan to volunteer if you're not enthused about competing. Call or drop me an e-mail and we'll find a role for you. bpaton@sympatico.ca Note: The trails at Glebe Park will be closed to recreational skiers this weekend while races are on.

Midweek Ski Outings.

Our regular outings will be on Tuesdays, starting Jan 1, 2008. That is, if the partying has not been too good! The principal objective of this group of mostly retirees is to ski in all of the six trail networks to which our annual passes give us access. Remember

to pick up a map at the Registration Meeting at the Clubhouse or from Lakeview Motel at other times. The map will show you how to get to

all of the six trail networks. Because skiing conditions are not always predictable, we usually leave it until the prior Sunday evening to decide which we will be visiting the following Tuesday. Other trips, to perhaps Arrowhead Park or the Leaf Lake trails in Algonquin Park, can be planned among groups on the Tuesday outings. Call Peter or Margaret Brogden at 754-2351 to join the phone list.

Moonlight Skiing

Optimum dates for this winter start on Dec.23, with Christmas Eve, Jan. 18, 19, 20, (Fri., Sat., Sun.), Feb. 16, 17 and Mar. 20, 21 (Good Friday) as other possibilities. These nights are chosen as being just before full moons, when the bright moon will be well above the horizon just after sundown. Of course, for a good outing, we need the weather to be clear and not too cold. Moosewoods, where the fire in the cabin can be lit or kept going on a weekend night, is the likely location. If the prospects

look good, just GO - there should be others there. Or try calling Peter or Margaret at 754-2351.

Private and Group Lessons

Contact Joleen at joleenthomas@hotmail.com or 489-4850

Jack Rabbit Program

Bunnyrabbit & Jackrabbit Program - Winter 2007/8

We will be offering Cross Country Canada's Skill Development Program for children from ages 4 to 12 years old. The *Bunnyrabbit Program* is the "Active Start" stage for children five and under. The *Jackrabbit program* for 6-9 year olds, is the second level of athlete development, the "FUNdamentals" stage. The third program is The

Ski cont'd... pg. 77...

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Track Attack Program, for 10-14 year olds. It is the "Learning to Train" stage of athlete development.

There are award booklets and stickers for the Jackrabbit and Bunyrabbit programs that provide incentives to improve technique, endurance and speed. The Track Attack Program has an Attack Log and 15 Incentive Cards which represent targets in the Log Book. The most important goal is to learn that winter and snow provide a great opportunity for outdoor enjoyment and adventure.

SATURDAYS AT GLEBE PARK - Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 23, Mar. 1, 2008. NB. No lessons Feb. 16

MEMBERSHIPS

Your membership gets you: Unlimited skiing on the Haliburton system; Unlimited skiing at Moosewoods; Unlimited skiing at the Frost Centre; Unlimited skiing at Twin Lakes; Unlimited skiing at Wanakita; Lit skiing at Glebe 'til 9p.m.; Liability insurance; Access to club programmes and facilities; A great 10% discount at Haliburton Home Hardware. Please send your membership promptly as there is a small penalty for late renewal.

The TRAILS

Leslie Frost Centre - With the opening last January of the new Deer Trail Shelter, the opportunities for excellent classic skiing on these often remote and scenic trails are better than ever. Both the Bear and Deer Trail Shelters have been well stocked with firewood, ready for a long season of cheery lunchtime get-togethers. It is really worth it to bring your packed lunch and make the drive to the Centre (it's 11 km south of Dorset on Hwy #35) A separate day pass is necessary if you do not hold a season's pass.

Twin Lakes - A smaller network of rolling classic trails looping through a hardwood forest. Located on Hwy #35 between Minden and Carnarvon, across from Ogopogo Resort. No services available.



Glebe Park - An area which is home to a competitive classic and skate trail system and a lighted loop. There is an excellent ~1km loop to learn or refresh your skills. Located in Haliburton beside Fleming College. The Ski Hut is only open during scheduled events. Rentals available at Sharpley Source For Sports downtown Haliburton.

The Resort Area - These trails are the closest to Wigamog, Willow Beach and Pinestone. Great for classic skiing! Rentals available at Pinestone Resort on Hwy #21.



Moosewoods - This system has over 20 km of skate/classic skiing, an excellent weekend destination. Warming hut that sometimes has treats! Great terrain for every skiing ability. Located on County Rd# 14 towards Eagle Lake.

Camp Wanakita Located off County Rd #1 in Donald. Check resort for details and conditions.

CONTACT INFO:

For club and trail info: <http://www.skihaliburton.com>
Flickr photo sharing group <http://www.flickr.com/groups/528378@N24/>
Facebook group <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=7057981836>
Cross Country Canada Website <http://www.ccski.com>
Cross Country Ontario <http://www.xco.org>
Lessons and Memberships

joleenthomas@hotmail.com or 489-4850

Rentals available at Sharpley Source For Sports 457-3933 or Delta PineStone Resort 457-1800

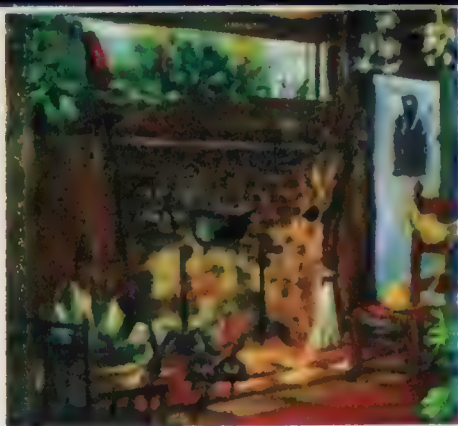


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A Pioneer's Christmas in Canada

Early pioneers came to Canada from Europe. They didn't celebrate Christmas the way we do today.

Most pioneer families didn't put up a Christmas tree. These people were of English, Scottish and Irish descent. The Christmas tree tradition didn't originate in those countries.

The Christmas tree came to Canada with settlers from Pennsylvania. These people were of German heritage, where the Christmas tree idea originated. In time, other people saw the German people's trees and began putting up a tree in their homes.

British families hung greens, which consisted of ivy, mistletoe and holly. Since these weren't available during the winter months, they made evergreen boughs into garland. These hung on mantles, stair banisters and about the door outside.

Pioneers used things from nature for decorations. Cranberries, nuts, berries, feathers and pinecones all gave the log cabins a festive look.

Stockings were hung by the hearth or on bedposts. Excited children opened their stockings to find apples, nuts, a treasured jack-knife or corn husk doll, wooden puzzles, and whistles whittled from wood. Sometimes the children were lucky enough to receive a homemade rocking horse, sled or snowshoes. Other gifts were handkerchiefs, scarves, mittens, hats and socks.

Christmas morning, families opened their modest gifts and then played a game of hide the thimble or blind man's bluff. They didn't have the board and computer games that we have today.

The biggest treat of all was dinner. Wild turkey or goose would be the guest of honour at the dinner table. Squash, turnip, cooked carrots, potatoes and gravy graced the table. For dessert, fruit, mincemeat pie, plum or currant pudding made a perfect end to a perfect day.





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Christmas Stories Save Christmas

"WHEN Scrooge awoke, it was so dark, that looking out of bed, he could scarcely distinguish the transparent window from the opaque walls of his chamber".

Thus begins the 2nd chapter of the world's most famous

Christmas story, "A Christmas Carol", by Charles Dickens.

Christmas stories are important tools for spreading Christmas cheer. Actually it is said that Charles Dickens' story, "A Christmas Carol", saved Christmas as we know it today. When Charles Dickens wrote his story in the 18th century, the celebration of Xmas was on the wane. But Dickens used his story to describe Christmas as a time of joy, a time when people respect

each other, and a time when everything is all right.

People liked to hear this story, and in the following years, happy Christmas stories became more and more popular together with the decorated Christmas tree, Christmas gifts, and the overall Christmas spirit.





During The Holidays

We take great happiness in greeting all our special friends and customers this season. May your holiday be filled with warmth and joy.

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The People's Friend

Haliburton County's NEW Weekly Newspaper

Season's Greetings from the new staff at the County Voice.

We are busy over the holidays setting up the new offices in Minden and Haliburton - and preparing the release of our new weekly newspaper. The staff is assembled and we're ready to open the doors in January. We look forward to a busy year and we can't wait to hear from everyone.. remember - any news is news we want to hear - so call, stop by the office, drop us an email or fax us ... we're all ears !!!

The Voice - 457-5001 The Communicator - 457-9999



Crime Flashback

by Max Haines

Murder for profit

Alan Palliko and Sandra Stockton proved to be a deadly duo

Sandra Stockton should have led an anonymous life. Certainly her early years gave no indication of what was to follow.

Sandra was born in August, 1940 in Los Angeles, Calif. In 1958, she graduated from high school and took a position as a sales clerk with a downtown department store.

When her sister's boyfriend fixed her up with Henry Stockton, she had no idea that she would marry Henry, divorce him and remarry him, but that's exactly what happened.

Henry proved to be a steady husband, but he lacked ambition in the work force as well as in his social life. He enjoyed staying at home and often spent the entire weekend puttering around his home on Ballard Street.

Sandra, on the other hand, longed for clothes she couldn't afford. She also longed for some semblance of a night life. Money was a scarce commodity around the Stockton residence.

Let's leave Sandra for a moment and home in on Alan Palliko. Unlike Sandra, Alan was born into wealth. His parents owned a large, rather luxurious home in Forest Hills, New York.

Right from the beginning, Alan was different. He kept to himself and barely made passing grades at school. However, he did graduate from Forest Hills high, but found it impossible to gain entrance into one of the large universities. He settled for West Virginia Wesleyan.

During the year Alan was away at school, his parents moved to Los Angeles. Alan visited them and fell in love with the California lifestyle. Long-legged lovelies and drinks at poolside - this was the life for him.

He managed to transfer to the University of Southern California, where he partied long and hard before being drafted into the army.

A stint in Germany was undistinguished. In November, 1960, Alan was honourably discharged and returned to Los Angeles. He took a job as junior salesman with Western Carloading. The job didn't pay much and his father had to subsidize his income.

In 1961, Alan met Katherine Drummond on a blind date. Katherine hailed from Dearborn, Michigan, but had struck out on her own a year after graduating from high school.

She was disappointed with Los Angeles. She worked long hours as a teletype operator for Pacific Telephone and had practically no social life.

All that changed when she met attractive, charming Alan Palliko. They went to movies, had cosy dinners and often danced the night away. So what if Alan liked to tell tall tales? No one is perfect.

When Alan lost his job at Western Carloading, he decided to become a police officer. On April 27, 1962, at age 25, Alan graduated from the Training Academy of the Los Angeles Police Department. Alan loved the work and turned out to be a good cop.

A year and a half after joining the force, he was working undercover with the drug squad. That's when he got into trouble. A fellow married officer came to Alan with a problem. His girlfriend was pregnant. Alan gave his friend the name of a doctor who would perform an abortion. Abortions were a felony at that time in California.

Alan's superiors found out about his involvement. As a result, he was dismissed from the LAPD.

Alan caught on with the Automobile Club of Southern California as a claims investigator for bodily injuries. At night, he attended law school.

On Friday, Aug. 14, 1964, Alan and Katherine were married. The young couple settled down. Alan worked and attended law school. His only hobby was target shooting. Katherine worked as well. Despite two incomes, money was scarce.

In 1965, Alan met fellow employee Sandra Stockton down at the auto club. Remember Sandra, the bored wife of Henry Stockton? She and Alan dated.

On Friday, Aug. 16, 1965, Katherine met with a terrible accident. As she was walking from her Volkswagen to the front door of her apartment, a car leaped the curb and slammed into her.

She was rushed to hospital, where she was treated for a severe concussion and numerous cuts. After being released from hospital, she recuperated at Alan's parents' home. On the brighter side, she signed over a \$5,000 insurance cheque to Alan. It was a tough way of doing things, but the Pallikos were out of debt.

Five months later, Katherine was walking through a parking lot, when once again she was struck by a hit-and-run driver. Once again, she was rushed to hospital. She was severely bruised and cut, but slowly recovered.

Haines cont'd... pg. 81...

Merry Christmas To All...

From our family to yours...
have a
**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!**

Sharp Electric

Del & Darlene, Gerald, Krysta, Ron,
Bill, Drew, Bill, Jamie, Robert,
Sean, Tim & Brandon

Warm Wishes

May the warmth
of Christmas
light up your life
throughout the
coming year.

Steve B, Mike B, and Tanya B

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Watch for our New Model Coming Soon!

Max Haines Cont'd... From pg. 80

For the second time, Katherine signed over a \$5,000 insurance cheque, but this time was different. This time, the thought entered her head that her husband was attempting to kill her. But she couldn't be certain.

Shortly after recuperating from her latest accident, Katherine went out one evening with some girlfriends. Alan stayed at home and proceeded to drink the best part of a bottle of bourbon.

He intercepted his wife on the street and without any provocation, gave her a severe beating. Poor Katherine. A stranger found her on the street and rushed her to hospital.

Sandra Stockton told a male friend that Katherine Palliko didn't kill easy. In fact, she told him all about the two attempts by Alan to kill his wife.

The friend heard the incredible story and told her to stop talking. His exact words were, "I don't want to know anything more about this."

Two days after Katherine's beating, Sandra Stockton purchased a Hi Standard .22-calibre revolver from Pachmyr Gun Works.

Katherine left hospital and returned to her home in Michigan to recuperate. This move left Alan free to spend all his time with Sandra. When Katherine returned from Michigan, she discovered that Alan had made several phone calls to a woman named Sandra Stockton.

The accidents, the beatings and now the cheating, it was all too much. Katherine filed for divorce.

During the month of November 1966, Alan told several friends that he was soon coming into heavy cash. Only he and Sandra knew they were planning the murder of her husband, Henry.

In the early morning hours of Dec. 11, 1966, Alan Palliko poured five .22-calibre bullets into Henry Stockton.

Two entered his chest, two the left temple and one entered the nose. Then Alan set the place on fire. A neighbour detected smoke and called the fire department, who quickly extinguished the flames.

Henry's body was found in his easy chair in front of the TV. Officials immediately tagged the incident as murder and arson.

Police found a life insurance policy in the house with Sandra Stockton listed as beneficiary. They soon learned that Sandra had spent the night with a girlfriend, 135 miles from the murder scene.

Despite her iron-clad alibi, Sandra was seriously suspected, because she was the only who would gain materially from Henry's death. In all, Henry's insurance would enrich his widow by close to \$100,000. A couple of months after the murder, Sandra received the proceeds of one policy in the amount of \$15,000.

Scores of interviews were conducted by detectives. They were sure Sandra was involved in her husband's death. They asked her to take a polygraph test. She refused. Finally, from her co-workers, they learned of her relationship with Alan Palliko.

When Alan was questioned, he admitted dating Sandra. When Sandra had been asked to list all male dates, she had not included Alan's name. Police knew she was lying.

Detectives kept track of Sandra's financial affairs. When she withdrew money from her bank, Alan, out of nowhere, would flash money at

restaurants and nightclubs. Sometimes he flew to Las Vegas to try his hand at the gaming tables.

Travellers cheques issued to Sandra were often cashed by Alan. Had the two conspired to kill Katherine Palliko and had they succeeded in murdering Henry Stockton?

The police thought so, but did not have enough proof to warrant an arrest.

Months passed. Alan courted many women. He met Judy Davis, a 21-year-old beauty who worked at a health spa. She became Alan's steady girlfriend. Meanwhile, Alan had purchased the Grand Duke Bar, which proved to be moderately successful.

A woman named Sandra often visited Alan at the bar, but that didn't deter our boy from becoming engaged to Judy.

Judy apparently loved Alan, although at times she had second thoughts. She told a friend that Alan had once told her that he had killed a man. Judy was soothed by the fact that Alan had said it was a matter of self defence.

Alan also told Michael Brockington, an employee at the bar, that he had killed Sandra's husband Henry.

On March 1, 1968, Judy and Alan married. Within a month, Judy realized she had made a mistake. Alan was moody, kept crazy hours and paid her little attention.

A month and a half later, on April 20, as she was parking her car in her apartment's parking space, Judy was shot to death. Her assailant had also struck the hapless girl over the head with a blunt instrument. Her life had been insured by her husband for \$25,000.

Detectives, who had been monitoring Alan's every move, now intensified their investigative efforts.

Acquaintances to whom Alan had confessed the Stockton murder now talked more freely. Some were in fear of their own lives. Little by little, police were able to piece together the Alan/Sandra conspiracy to kill for profit.

On Feb. 17, 1969, Alan Palliko was found guilty of murdering Henry Stockton and Judy Palliko. He was also found guilty of two charges of attempting to murder Katherine Palliko.

Sandra Stockton was found guilty of the murder of her husband. Alan was sentenced to death. Sandra received life imprisonment.

While lodged in San Quentin's Death Row, his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment in June, 1972, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the death penalty to be unconstitutional. Sandra Stockton served seven years in prison before being paroled on April 29, 1976.



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Top Ten: Christmas Quotes

Christmas creates a happy and pleasant atmosphere for most people, but the Christmas atmosphere can be hard to describe in words. Here you have a series of great quotes about Christmas phrased by famous people.

1. Agnes M. Pharo

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.

2. Carol Nelson

Christmas is a time when you get homesick - even when you're home.

3. Helen Keller

The only blind person at Christmastime is he who has not Christmas in his heart.

4. Harlan Miller

Probably the reason we all go so haywire at Christmas time with the endless unrestrained and often silly buying of gifts is that we don't quite know how to put our love into words.

5. Shirley Temple

I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph.

6. Norman Vincent Peale

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.

7. Mary Ellen Chase

Christmas, children, is not a date. It is a state of mind.

Unknown

8. W.J. Cameron

There has been only one Christmas - the rest are anniversaries.

9. Larry Wilde

Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall.

10. Charles Dickens

I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year



Charles Dickens

"CHRISTMAS" or Xmas

The word comes from the Old English term Cristes maesse, meaning "Christ's mass." This was the name for the festival service of worship held on December 25 to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ. While it is accepted that Jesus was born in the small town of Bethlehem a few miles south of Jerusalem, there is no certain information on the date of his birth, not even of the year. One reason for this uncertainty is that the stories of his birth, recorded in the New Testament books of Matthew and Luke, were written several decades after the event. And those who wrote of it gave no specific dates for the event. Also, some get offended when people call 'Christmas' xmas. However, the X in Xmas, still stands for Christ. As in the Greek language Christ is said as Xristos. Hence came the word Xmas. It was not intended to take Christ out of Christmas.



Who Dun-it??

You Be The Detective...

THE CASE OF THE DEFIANT ACTRESS

Thomas P. Stanwick was chatting with Inspector Matt Walker at police headquarters when the manager of the Hotel Pelletier called to report a blackmail note slipped under Eva Merker's door. The manager, Kenneth Taylor, soon admitted Stanwick and Walker to Merker's suite.

The sitting room was stocked with fresh flowers. The open bedroom beyond showed an elaborate makeup set by the mirrored desk. Not on display was the Tony award Eva Merker had won fifteen years earlier. The Divine Eva was still in demand, and was now in Royston as the star of the touring company for the smash comedy, "Exaltation of Larks."

Once introductions were made and the four of them were seated at a small table, Walker picked up the white printed sheet with a forceps and read it.

"I know about your tax game," the document ran, "and am sure the IRS would be VERY interested. For \$250,000, I'll keep quiet. Say OK in your opening scene Wednesday night if you agree. Instructions will follow."

"There is nothing amiss about my finances, Inspector," Merker said angrily as she drew her plush green robe closely around her. "That's why I called in the police."

"Perhaps you can tell me what led up to your discovery of the note, Miss Merker," said Walker quietly.

"After last night's performance," said Merker more calmly, "several of us went out for a late supper at La Casa Italia and then to a nightclub. Most show nights we do that. I got back to my suite after three, and by four I was asleep. When I got up at noon, I found that note slipped under my door."

Walker thought briefly and then turned to the manager.

"Mr. Taylor," he asked, "who had access to this floor last night and this morning? And which of those would know Miss Merker's room number?"

"We often host celebrities," said Taylor stiffly, "so access is restricted. I suppose there would be fifteen people. That includes three other cast members who are also staying on this floor."

"Can you tell me which ones, Miss Merker?"

"Well, there's Ralph Dacey," Merker smiled. "My leading man. Nancy Trull has a supporting role. And Mary O'Shea has a minor part. She's Nancy's roommate."

"Do you suspect any of them?" asked Walker.

"No, Inspector."

Walker stood up and slipped the note into a plastic sleeve.

"Nonetheless, we have to start somewhere," he said. "I'll have my sergeant ask them to come to headquarters."

On Friday afternoon, Stanwick strolled into Walker's office.

"I was too busy to call yesterday," said Stanwick as he sat down. "Did the Divine Eva say OK at Wednesday night's performance?"

"No, she didn't," said Walker, looking up, "although we had asked her to play along. She sure has her own mind — and ego."

"In a star?" Stanwick laughed. "Unheard of!"

"Well, her holiness doesn't know much about police work. The blackmailer's been quiet. And the note wasn't traceable. It could have been printed off anywhere."

"How did your questioning of the three cast members go?"

Walker sighed deeply.

"They were told that a blackmail note had been left for Miss Merker," he said. "No specifics. They agreed to undergo a polygraph exam. I don't know why I bothered, though. The polygraph went haywire again!"

"Not again!" Stanwick suppressed a grin.

"Again. Each of them made two statements. All but two statements were true. But the machine delayed and mixed up the readings, so we can't tell which statements are the false ones!"

"Most annoying, I'm sure," said Stanwick. He stretched out his long legs. "What were the statements?"

"Ralph Dacey said he didn't leave the note, and that if any of the three of them did, it was not Nancy Trull. Trull said she didn't leave the note, and neither did O'Shea. O'Shea similarly denied leaving the note and said Trull didn't do it."

"Interesting how the women explicitly stick up for each other," Stanwick remarked.

"Hatch tells me they're close friends and light sleepers, so either would likely know if the other were involved in this scheme. Dacey also knows them pretty well. So we can presume they would really know whether their statements were true or false."

"Of course, it may have been someone else," Walker continued. "Hatch is questioning others who had access to Holy Eva's floor."

"Any chance the accusation of tax fraud is true?" asked Stanwick.

"We're checking on it, but have found nothing there. The blackmailer probably thought the threat of embarrassment would be enough."

Stanwick smiled. "It's a pity."

"What?"

"I saw 'Exaltation of Larks' a few weeks ago. It's a great show, but I paid the full price. If only this had come up first, I think I could have swung a free pair of tickets from the Divine Eva!"

"For hearing her complaint?"

"For solving the case! A bit of deductive logic shows the blackmailer's identity. But hey — maybe she can treat you and Elizabeth. It'll help make up for the frustrations of the irregular polygraph!"

WHO IS THE BLACKMAILER?

Solution on pg. 84

Q. Why does Santa Claus go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?
A. Because it soots him.

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filled with warm
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one ball missing from his tray
his eyebrow is longer
he's not smiling
his bangs stick out
her eyebrows are gone
her boots are shorter
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Who Dun-it?

Solution from pg. 83

"How can you know who it is? It may not even be any of the three we've questioned!" Walker exclaimed.

"Well," explained Stanwick, "we know that exactly two of the statements are false. Suppose it wasn't any of those three people. Then all the statements are true. Suppose it was Dacey. Then there's only one false statement: his denial. If Trull were the blackmailer, then there would be three false statements, since each of them attested to her innocence.

"The only way exactly two of the statements can be false is if O'Shea is the blackmailer. Then the false statements are the claims of her innocence made by herself and by Trull.

"You'll need more for the courts, of course," Stanwick concluded, "but now

you know
where to
focus. Yes,
there will be
a slight
change to
the cast. But
take your
wife. Please."



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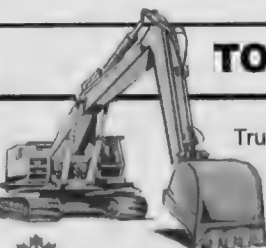
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Fire Prevention Safety Tips For The Holidays



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7	6	4	8	1	2	3	5	9
8	2	3	1	5	7	4	9	6
5	7	6	3	4	9	1	8	2
9	4	1	2	8	6	5	7	3
1	9	7	4	2	8	6	3	5
6	3	5	7	9	1	2	4	8
4	8	2	5	6	3	9	1	7

Make sure your tree stand is firm and not tippy. Keep your tree away from heat sources and exit routes.

Water your tree daily and remove it soon after Christmas or earlier if it noticeably begins shedding its needles. A dry Christmas tree is so dangerous that it should not be left in or even near your home while awaiting disposal, not even with your trash.

If you bought an artificial tree, make sure you read carefully all the warnings and pay special attention to the manufacturer's instructions about the appropriate number and size of decorative lights. Never put electric lights on a metal tree. That creates a serious shock hazard.

If your decorative Christmas-tree lights are worn or have loose connections, replace them.

Always unplug or switch off all decorative lights, including outdoor lights, before leaving your home or going to bed.

Be Alert During Holiday Parties

Keep fire safety in mind at holiday parties, especially those where people are drinking and smoking. Provide smokers with large, deep, non-tip ashtrays and keep cigarette and smoking materials away from the Christmas trees and flammable decorations. Soak the contents of ashtrays before dumping them into a wastebasket. Check your furniture for smoldering butts after the party and make sure no one has left matches or lighters within reach of children.

Be careful when using candles this holiday season.

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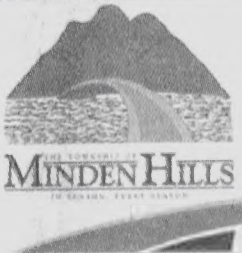
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Say it Five Times Fast...

If one doctor doctors another doctor, does the doctor who doctors the doctor doctor the doctor the way the doctor he is doctoring doctors? Or does he doctor the doctor the way the doctor who doctors doctors?



The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills Requires a CULTURAL CENTRE DIRECTOR

CLOSING: January 11th, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

The successful candidate shall:

- ☛ Be responsible for the management and administration of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, R.D. Lawrence Place and the Minden Hills Museum (Minden Cultural Centre) in conjunction with staff and a volunteer advisory committee structure
- ☛ Possess post secondary education and related experience with a non-profit organizational structure and related administration
- ☛ Develop and administer Centre budgets, policies and procedures for approval of Township of Minden Hills' Council
- ☛ Promote and market the Cultural Centre to the general public
- ☛ Coordinate and implement activities related to short and long term planning
- ☛ Pursue funding opportunities through foundations, government programs and the private sector

A detailed position description is available upon request. The hourly rate of pay for this permanent position (1320 hours/annually) to commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Qualified applicants are invited to submit a resume in confidence, clearly marked "Cultural Centre Director" by 4:00 p.m. on the 11th day of January, 2008 to:

The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills
Box 359, 7 Milne Street
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
to the attention of
Mr. Gerry Morrison, CAO
(email: gmorrison@mindenhills.ca)
Phone (705) 286-1260 ext 213 Fax (705) 286-4917.
www.mindenhills.ca

Personal information and supporting material is used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. We thank all applicants for applying, but only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

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There were 9 sams in the last issue. They were hidden in the following ads: Paulmac's Pet Food, Harvest Bulk & Health Foods, A Little Bit of Everything, Kennisis Marina, Jewels, Bishop & Rogers, Northwood Inn, Highland Leisure, Don Barker Heating & Cooling

The winner of the Spot Sam Contest is: Mary Cameron of Minden



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Effective January 1st, 2008 the Township will be implementing

MANDATORY CLEAR BAGS

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that dream cottage on? just imagine sitting on the dock in the morning sun enjoying that first coffee listening to the quiet you don't get in the city, watching the family enjoy swimming, boating, fishing or getting that perfect tan. This lot is on one of the largest, cleanest lake chains (Redstone) in Haliburton County. You can have all of the above with this property having 165' of unbelievable sand beach and 66' of municipal allowance the possibilities are endless.

\$465,000.00

Are you ready to retire but still want to something do or just want to get out of the city? Do you like to cook for people? Do you love having family around or a romantic getaway? Do you like privacy? Do you like nature and nature walks? Do you like the relaxing sounds of waterfalls? This home could be it. With lots of extra space, try a bed & breakfast or just a family compound. This beautiful home sits on the edge of a river with a swimming hole and 14 acres to enjoy nature, walks and relaxation at its best. Features also include a Jacuzzi tub and outdoor hot tub on the patio. 2 bdrms are on the lower walk out level making privacy a plus. Easy to set up a 2nd kitchen with hook-ups there. Full laundry facilities also. Don't forget the second building with a separate family area.

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3525 sq ft of living space on 2 floors. 3 lg bdrms, den, 2 family rooms, living room, 2 baths, & 1 jacuzzi & shower ensuite, solid oak kitchen, dining room w/ greenhouse window effect & new skylights, access to lower level from garage also. Possible apt in lower level. New propane furnace, propane fireplace & stove, central vac, attached dbl garage, & works shed fully insulated.

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friendship

That brightens all the year.
It's thoughtfulness and
kindness,

It's hope reborn again.

For peace, for
understanding

And for goodwill to men!

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A Very Merry

Christmas and

Happy Holiday Season

Gloria, Cindy, and
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\$419,000.00

Check out listings & more photos at
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